MAJEL

STAR TREK
THE MOTION PICTURE

RODDENBERRY.COM

A GENE RODDENBERRY PRODUCTION

A ROBERT WISE FILM

S T A R T R E K

The Motion Picture

Screenplay

by

Gene Roddenberry

Harold Livingston

Story

by

Alan Dean Foster

and

Gene Roddenberry

This script is not for publication or reproduction.
No one is authorized to dispose of same. If lost
or destroyed, please notify script department.

Return to Script Department
PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION
5451 Marathon Street
Hollywood, California 90038

SHOOTING SCRIPT

July 19, 1978

RODDENBERRY.COM

STAR TREK:

The Motion Picture

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE (S) 1

An ever expanding infinity of light and color as CAMERA TRAVELS THROUGH deep space, MOVING DIRECTLY for one pinpoint of light: a STAR GROWING RAPIDLY as we SWEEP TOWARD IT, a normal white star SUDDENLY CHANGING, brightening, flaring unbelievable intensity: supernova. The CAMERA HOLDS just a moment, then MOVES on, SEARCHING through space, the jeweled beauty of other star systems, sparkling nebulae, swirling hydrogen clouds. STILL MOVING, then CAMERA FINDS:

2 EXT. AREA OF LUMINESCENCE (S) 2

in the far distance, slowly growing in size as CAMERA APPROACHES: it resembles, vaguely at this distance, an Aurora Borealis: flaring colors from the fringes, beautiful yet ominous. It is so large, this Cloud, it can envelope an entire solar system. CAMERA CONTINUES APPROACHING the Cloud, and then suddenly, crossing our POV, a:

3 KLINGON HEAVY CRUISER (S) 3

in a graceful, turning arc toward the mysterious LUMINESCENCE. CAMERA FOLLOWS this Klingon, then FINDS a second Klingon cruiser, also turning toward the Cloud, which continues to grow in size as the Klingons approach it at warp speed, CAMERA CLOSING on the lead ship, until the vessel's detail can be clearly MADE OUT: lights, weaponry, power systems, idenitification emblazoned on the nacelles and saucer in Klingon language (and symbols).

4 INT. KLINGON CRUISER BRIDGE (O) 4

clearly alien, an ODD-SOUNDING KLAXON signalling "battle stations." Orders issued in KLINGON LANGUAGE, the KLINGON CAPTAIN and EXEC peering at an unusual bridge viewer at the huge area of LUMINESCENT HAZE directly ahead. In KLINGON DIALOGUE:

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(Give me tactical.)

5 CLOSE - MAIN VIEWER (O) 5

goes suddenly to a TACTICAL GRID SYSTEM, showing the LUMINESCENT HAZE to be an ENORMOUS BLIP OF LIGHT ON THE SCREEN, with two TINY PINPRICKS OF LIGHT completing their turn on a direct course toward it.

6 EXT. SPACE - THE KLINGON PATROL AND THE HAZE (S) 6

The Patrol is clearly SEEN now on the right bottom of the FRAME... THREE tiny ships closing on the steadily growing LUMINESCENT HAZE.

7 INT. THE KLINGON BRIDGE - CAPTAIN AND EXEC (O) 7

All eyes on the viewer that shows the ships sweeping on the Mysterious Cloud.

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(in Klingonese)
Visual.

The TECHNICIAN makes the switch.

8 CLOSE - VIEW SCREEN - LUMINESCENT HAZE (O) 8

growing ever larger, its flaring colors menacing, mysterious, strangely beckoning.

9 INT. BRIDGE - KLINGON COMMAND CRUISER 9

The crew stands by for battle.

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(in Klingonese)
Tactical again. Stand by on torpedoes.

10 EXT. SPACE - LEAD KLINGON VESSEL (TORPEDO HATCH) (S) 10

sliding open, the glowing "Hell Fire" of the Photon Launch tubes, slowly revealed.

11 VERY WIDE ANGLE - THE THREE SHIPS (S) 11

They are tiny, insect-like shapes moving still CLOSER to the Luminescent Cloud, so large now that it begins to cominate all space ahead.

PODDENBERRY.COM

12 INT. KLINGON BRIDGE - TACTICAL GRID - CAPTAIN AND EXEC (O) 12

The growing nearness and enormous size of the Cloud also reflected on the Tactical Grid, somehow more awesome by this schematic view. The Captain gestures the order to "FIRE."

13 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON KLINGON VESSEL - TORPEDO HATCH (S) 13

The BRILLIANT PHOTON BLOBS of the torpedos spurt from the tubes.

14 ANGLE ON KLINGON VESSEL (S) 14

A deadly PHOTON TORPEDO pattern racing away from the Klingon and toward the Luminescent glow in the distance.

15 INT. KLINGON BRIDGE - TACTICAL GRID (O) 15

The torpedoes are heading directly toward the Cloud. Suddenly they glow briefly and disappear long before they reach their intended target.

16 INT. KLINGON BRIDGE - CAPTAIN AND EXEC 16

incredulous that their torpedoes have disappeared without a trace.

17 EXT. SPACE - THE CLOUD - THREE KLINGON SHIPS (S) 17

as the second and third ships launch torpedoes toward the color-flaring surface of the Cloud. This time we have an outside, real VIEW of the torpedoes glowing brightly and then disappearing with no effect.

18 INT. KLINGON BRIDGE (O) 18

The Klingon crew grim, desperate, watching a BRIGHT STACCATO BLIP OF POWER from within the LUMINESCENCE.

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(quickly; Klingonese)
Full forcefields; evasive maneuvers.

19 EXT. SPACE - THE CLOUD - THE KLINGON PATROL (S) 19

Out of the LUMINESCENCE hurtles a FRIGHTENING WHIPLASH OF ENERGY. It bears down on the Klingon Patrol, now in an evasive maneuver. Then the WHIPLASH BOLT hits the third cruiser in a writhing flare of energy which totally engulfs the vessel.

The other two ships veer off, warping around again into attack position. The THIRD SHIP has begun to implode in on itself, the matter-energy of its existence drained by the WHIPLASH BOLT that HOLDS IT.

20 ANGLE ON REMAINING KLINGON CRUISERS (S) 20

desperately defending themselves, FORCEFIELDS FULL UP, RAPIDLY FIRING PHOTON TORPEDOES. But now a SECOND WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT has emerged from the cloud and hits the second vessel, DESTROYING it.

The THIRD WHIPLASH BOLT glances off the surviving Cruiser as the ship retreats in a wide, evasive turn, FIRING from stern tubes.

21 INT. KLINGON BRIDGE 21

The bridge shattered; Klingon bodies. The mortally-wounded Captain is transmitting urgently:

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(in Klingonese)
... severely damaged. Returning fire...

22 EXT. SPACE - STARFLEET MONITOR STATION EPSILON 9 (S) 22

Serenity here. A barren, rocky small planetoid softly lit by the myriad stars. This is a small Starfleet outpost, antennae sprouting everywhere. Tiny figures (WORKERS) servicing one antenna illustrate the size of the installation.

23 INT. EPSILON 9 - MONITOR ROOM - A VIEWER (O) 23

SHOWING the battle scene, and the VOICE OF THE KLINGON CAPTAIN in his last stand against the Object; his VOICE is weary, almost mechanical. On the adjacent viewer, an English printout of the Klingon's words chatters along the bottom of the picture:

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: 23

KLINGON CAPTAIN
(in Klingonese)
Imperial Klingon Cruiser Amar... severely damaged by unfamiliar weaponry... intruder unidentified...

24 WIDER ANGLE - EPSILON 9 STARFLEET PERSONNEL AND VIEWER (O) 24

At the viewers are a FEMALE LIEUTENANT and FOUR TECHNICIANS. COMMANDER BRANCH, young, alert, enters hurriedly, scans the console.

LIEUTENANT
Our sensor drone is intercepting this on Quad L-14.

BRANCH
That's within Klingon boundaries. Who are they fighting?

LIEUTENANT
Unknown, sir.

KLINGON CAPTAIN (V.O.)
... believe luminescent cloud to be enormous power field surrounding alien vessel... size and description unknown ... our sensor scans unable to penetrate. Imperial Klingon Cruiser Amar... continuing to attack...

A violent EXPLOSION inside Klingon bridge -- Klingon Captain's body is thrown violently against the bulkhead.

TECHNICIAN
I have an exterior visual!

25 CLOSE ON VIEWER (O) 25

showing EXTERIOR of the Klingon vessel: a final, frightening WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT strikes it -- then the same awesome IMPLOSION INTO FIREBALL.

26 WIDER ANGLE - PERSONNEL AND VIEWER (O) 26

The Starfleet station onlookers react to the utter annihilation of the huge cruiser. And now, past where the cruiser just disappeared -- the mysterious LUMINESCENCE approaching in distance. Technician hits a switch, magnifying the strange CLOUD.

(CONTINUED)

GODDENBERRY.COM

26 CONTINUED: 26

LIEUTENANT
We've plotted a course on that cloud, Commander: it will pass into Federation Space fairly close to us.

BRANCH
Heading?

27 CLOSE ON THE MAIN MONITOR STATION (O) 27

as its focal point shifts to the huge elliptically-shaped LUMINESCENCE racing across the sky. MUSIC (V'GER THEME) COMMENCES in a low, unresolved CHORD that remains in the background through the remainder of this scene, and the beginning of the next one.

LIEUTENANT'S VOICE
Sir, it's on a precise heading for Earth.

Ominously now the LUMINESCENCE increases in size, and begins to fill the viewer. HOLD A MOMENT, and then:

28 EXT. SURFACE OF PLANET VULCAN - DAY (M) 28

with the CAMERA MOVING THROUGH masses of thick, steamy vaporous clouds, swirling about, rising boilingly up from some unseen, underground source. The CAMERA CONTINUES MOVING through clouds.

And then... the Vulcan landscape. Harsh, strange angular peaks and rock formations -- the barren, legendary mountain home of Vulcan Masters.

29 EXT. VULCAN LEDGE - SPOCK (M & F.P.) 29

Spock's lean features instantly recognizable despite unkempt, longer hair and the fatigue born of a long, harsh discipline he has undergone. His robes, tattered and dust covered, are that of a Vulcan Aspirant in study with the Masters. Under the V'ger THEME MUSIC we HEAR a VOICE in ritual tones:

FEMALE MASTER'S VOICE
Spock, son of Sarek of Vulcan... and of Amanda of Earth... diligently you have labored for purification of mind... *

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: 29

V'ger THEME MUSIC PEAKING as Spock, distracted by the "something" far away (which we associate with THEME MUSIC), Spock raises his head and scans the sky and space beyond. At this, the Master's VOICE stops.

30 REVERSE ANGLE - SPOCK, VULCAN MASTERS, AND RUINS 30

In b.g., gigantic, ancient Vulcan statues and ruins. In f.g., the stone ruins platform on which Spock stands faces a semi-circle of three similar platforms. On them, in regal robes and bearing, are three VULCAN MASTERS. They are very old, very elegant, the Master in the center a female, the other two Masters are male. The elderly female is holding a cord and ancient pendant as if ready to place it around Spock's neck at an appropriate moment. Spock is still staring up as V'ger THEME MUSIC FADES.

MALE MASTER
(chidingly)
Spock...!

Spock turns, giving a small contrite nod -- the ritual continues.

FEMALE MASTER
Here on these sands where our forebearers cast out their animal passions -- thence forever devoting our minds to logic...
(raising cord and pendant)
... receive from us this symbol of the rationality which saved our race.

Spock starts to kneel... a faint reprise of V'ger THEME MUSIC causes him to hesitate, look skyward again. Female Master, moving to put the ancient pendant around Spock's neck, now hesitates -- she looks upwards, too, then exchanges a look with the Male Masters.

FEMALE MASTER
(continuing)
Our minds, also, have felt that far off 'presence,' Spock. Has it special meaning to you?
(gestures Spock forward)
Come, give me your thoughts.

She kneels with Spock -- lays her hands on his temples in Vulcan mind-meld position.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: 30

FEMALE MASTER
(continuing)
Our minds, Spock... One and together...

Their eyes close -- their minds meld -- then her head jerks slightly, her features change as her mind feels Spock's reactions to the V'ger consciousness. A long moment, then she opens her eyes, gets to her feet and looks down on the still kneeling Spock. Then, she casts aside the pendant she carries -- it falls into the dust.

FEMALE MASTER
(continuing; sadly)
This consciousness which calls -- it stirs emotion in you, Spock? You have not achieved Pon Khabah -- your human half is not fully extinguished.
(to the other Masters)
He will not achieve his goal with us. His answer lies elsewhere.

The three Masters leave -- Spock watches them go, his disappointment evident even in his stoic features.

31 MED. ANGLE ON SPOCK (M. & F.P.) 31

CAMERA CLOSES IN on his face as we again HEAR a fragment of V'ger THEME MUSIC -- Spock again raises his head and peers up into the heavens. HOLD on his face a moment, then...

SHOCK CUT TO:

32 EXT. EARTH - AN AIR TRAM - DAY (S) 32

gleaming silver in the sun as it streaks TOWARD the CAMERA POSITION and hurtles PAST.

33 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - HILLTOP AIR TRAM STATION - DAY (M) 33

From this vantage, we can SEE all of twenty-third century San Francisco stretched out before us. In the b.g., the familiar forms of the carefully preserved Golden Gate Bridge and Transamerica Pyramid Building serve as our only reminders that this is, indeed, San Francisco.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: 33

The AIR TRAM (an anti-gravitational train flying several feet above the ground) DECELERATES sharply, silently, as it nears the station, then slides in and settles to the ground with a whisper.

34 EXT. TRAM STATION - CLOSE ON TRAM DOORS - DAY 34

The doors opening, and various TRAVELERS (civilians and Starfleet personnel) leaving the tram, striding onto the platform, continuing on their respective ways. Among the departing throng:

RODDENBERRY.COM

35 KIRK 35

in Admiral's uniform, grim, determined, moving through the throng. Now and then Starfleet officers nod respectfully; KIRK responds with detached formality; his mind is clearly set on something he is resolved to accomplish here in headquarters -- whatever the cost. CAMERA WITH HIM, to:

36 INT. AIR TRAM STATION - DAY 36

as Kirk strides into the graceful Starfleet HQ building. Many PEOPLE are about, civilians and uniformed personnel; most of them with some air of urgency. (NOTE: ALIENS interspersed among them, Vulcans, blue-skinned Andorians, high-domed Vegans, etc.) Kirk continues on when suddenly he reacts, annoyed as he sees:

37 SONAK 37

a Vulcan, Lt. Commander; short, white-haired, grizzled, hurrying along. Kirk calls to him:

KIRK
Commander Sonak...! *

SONAK turns with Vulcan imperturbability to face Kirk who steps toward him.

KIRK
(continuing) *
You've received your appointment * *
as Enterprise Science Officer?

SONAK *
(nods) *
Based, I am told, on your * *
recommendation, Admiral. Thank you.

KIRK *
Why aren't you on board?

SONAK
Captain Decker requested I complete * *
final Science briefing here before... *

KIRK *
(interrupting)
Here at Starfleet...? The * *
Enterprise is in final preparation * *
to leave dock...

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

37 CONTINUED: 37

SONAK
Which will require twenty more hours at minimum, Admiral...

KIRK
Twelve! I'm on my way to a meeting with Admiral Nogura which will not last more than three minutes. Report to me on the Enterprise in one hour.

SONAK
To you, sir?

KIRK
I intend to be there following that meeting. Report to me. One hour!

And Kirk turns, strides purposefully away. Sonak gazes after him, one eyebrow raised quizzically.

38 EXT. EARTH ORBIT (S) 38

In f.g., Orbital drydock offices, rotating slowly but perceptibly against blue-black of space. Small figures in spacesuits working on construction, with work belts. Beyond and below... Earth. In the far distance we can barely make out an orbital drydock.

39 CLOSER ANGLE - ORBITAL OFFICE CLUSTER (S) 39

The cluster is a fully-equipped dockyard engineering center and computer drafting office.

CAMERA MOVES IN AND CENTERS ON an outer "Travel Pod."

40 INT. INNER OFFICE (O) 40

an installation which also includes a double position transporter, in which we SEE the TRANSPORTER EFFECT BEGIN. With the TRANSPORTER CREW IS SCOTT. He's with a Technician, busy with a piece of complex circuitry. Then he turns, sees that it is Kirk BEAMING in here. As Kirk materializes, steps off the transporter platform, Scott moves quickly to him.

40A KIRK AND SCOTT 40A

The starship Engineering Officer clearly surprised to see Kirk here. Kirk has that same look of grim determination we just saw in the headquarters building.

(CONTINUED)

40A CONTINUED: 40A

SCOTT
Admiral, I've been hoping to see you. Maybe you can get through to those thick heads in Starfleet that...

KIRK
Why aren't the Enterprise transporters in operation, Mister Scott?

SCOTT
We're hoping it's only a temporary problem, Admiral...

KIRK
See that it is.
(moving toward pod)
Take me over, please.

Scott is now eyeing Kirk just a little warily as he follows him into the pod. Kirk's determined expression suggests that some chips are going to fly and Scott does not want to become one of them.

SCOTT
(carefully)
Admiral, the Enterprise has just finished eighteen months redesigning and refitting. She needs testing, a shakedown...

KIRK
Mr. Scott, there's an alient object with unbelievable destructive power less than three days away from this planet... *

Kirk hits a button on the travel pod panel -- the airlock doors SLAM closed behind them. Then, stepping immediately to the front observation window:

KIRK
(continuing)
... the only Starship in interception range is the Enterprise! Ready, or not, she launches in twelve hours!

Scott throws Kirk an appalled look but is now occupied in sealing the Outer Pod door and manipulating drive controls.

CAMERA CONTINUES TO PULL BACK TO REVEAL front of the Pod and arms of the office complex as Pod disconnects and starts to move.

41 thru 43 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - ANGLES ON TRAVEL POD (S) 41 thru 43

as it moves away from the office Complex. We can SEE the jet flames of its tiny thrusters moving the Pod as it circles around and heads off toward the distant Orbital Dry Dock.

44 INT. TRAVEL POD - KIRK AND SCOTT 44

Scott is nervously eyeing Kirk. Finally he decides to make another effort.

SCOTT
She's filled with new untested equipment. Her new engine design has never been tested at warp power. Add to that an untried Captain on the bridge... *

KIRK
(hint of a smile)
Two and a half years as Chief of Starfleet Operations may have made me a little stale, Mr. Scott -- but I wouldn't exactly consider myself 'untried.' *

It takes Scott a moment to comprehend, and Kirk smiles now, nods.

KIRK
(continuing)
They've just given her back to me, Scotty.

Scott peers at him, genuinely surprised. Then:

SCOTT
I've some doubts they just 'gave' it to you, sir.
(grins now)
I'm taking no chances with a man who can manage that... I'll have her ready on time. *

And he clasps Kirk's elbow affectionately, then gestures Kirk to look out the pod window.

45 EXT. OUTSIDE THE POD WINDOW - KIRK'S POV (O) 45

as he looks out: the blue-black of orbital space.

46 INT. TRAVEL POD 46

Scott is well aware of what the Enterprise means to Kirk. As Scott maneuvers the pod to provide the best perspective, Kirk peers through the observation window, craning his head, hungry for his first glimpse of the starship. Scott is watching him, immensely pleased.

47 PAST THEM TO THE POD WINDOW (O) 47

as we SEE the drydock and more of its detail, and a hint of what is inside.

48 thru 50 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - OTHER ANGLES FROM THE POD (O) 48 thru 50

PAST Kirk and Scott the corner of the drydock becomes larger -- we begin SEEING more of it. And then the merest glimpse of what is inside the drydock: The Enterprise slips INTO VIEW.

51 INT. POD - VERY CLOSE ON KIRK AT WINDOW 51

as he watches, his face reflecting all of it: the awe, the wonder, the romance, the obsession. The one complete love of his life. And with that love regained, he is becoming once more fully alive again.

SCOTT
Quite a feeling, sir?

KIRK
(eyeing Enterprise; then nods)
Like Lazarus must have felt.

52 WHAT THEY SEE - THE ENTERPRISE (S) 52

Now DOMINATING the SCREEN -- the awesome, symmetrical bulk of the starship comes fully INTO VIEW. And it dominates Kirk's -- and our emotions.

53 thru 56 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE - AND THE POD (TINY IN THIS SHOT) AS IT CIRCLES - THE ANT-LIKE FIGURES OF WORKERS (S) 53 thru 56

The great ship dwarfs everything. The drydock becomes a fragile filigree framing the ship's great curved bulk. The tiny pod continues to move along it.

(CONTINUED)

53 thru 56 CONTINUED: 53 thru 56

Small automated welding devices move along the girders, working with brief, bright orange-white flares. In other areas of metal lace structure, supplies and equipment are being loaded onto the ship. The pod continues moving (Scott is giving Kirk time to see all), watched carefully by the TINY FIGURES OF SUPERVISING TECHNICIANS on the drydock. Now the pod moves toward mating position. It closes in, secures itself to the outer airlock.

57 INT. POD - AT THE AIRLOCK 57

Scott completing the mating procedure, Kirk turning from the observation window. Outside, the metallic CLICK of the pod locking onto the airlock. Now the "WHOOSH" of the latch doors securing, the CLANG of security bolts. It's all been a rare and delicious moment for Kirk, and his face shows it.

OVER the POD INTERCOM we HEAR, "Pod secured. Pressure equalized." Scott moves the control to open the hatch.

RODDENBERRY.COM

58 INT. ENTERPRISE CARGO DECK (M) 58

A confusion of organized work and VOICES. The cargo deck bustles with activity; supplies and equipment being stored and installed.

59 INT. CARGO DECK - BALCONY AND CATWALK 59

Kirk and Scott are met by a nervous, perspiring ENSIGN.

KIRK AND SCOTT
Permission to come aboard, sir...?

ENSIGN
Granted, sir. Welcome aboard, Admiral... Commander Scott, you're needed in Engineering immediately.

SCOTT
(to Kirk)
Sir, you'll excuse me...?

Kirk gestures him to leave, and Scott hurries away. Kirk stands a moment, gazing down at the cargo deck.

60 ANGLE DOWN PAST KIRK TO FLOOR (M) 60

The crew maneuvering anti-gravity devices which move heavy containers -- scrambles of activity at storage holds and maintenance lockers.

61 CLOSE ON KIRK AND ENSIGN 61

Kirk is drinking it all in. He's home.

ENSIGN
(nervous)
Sir, if you'll follow me, I'll...

KIRK
I think I can find my way, Ensign.

And Kirk moves off, leaving the Ensign gazing at him, relieved.

62 EXT. ELEVATOR AT CATWALK 62

Kirk ENTERS ANGLE and the doors snap open.

RODDENBERRY.COM

63 INT. ELEVATOR 63

as Kirk enters. The doors close. Kirk waits a beat, savoring this moment too. Then, firmly to the control panel: *

KIRK
Bridge!

The turbo-elevator HUMS WITH POWER as it begins hurtling up. On the wall back of Kirk we SEE an electronic diagram of the Enterprise tracking the elevator's speedy trip to the Bridge. *

64 INT. BRIDGE 64

A confusion of activity and VOICES. Pieces of equipment in a state of disarray: consoles open, fiber optic tubes unconnected, viewing screens dismantled. It's a frantic, desperate scene -- a ship and crew totally unprepared. In the midst of all this: ALIEN ENSIGN is assisting UHURA (Lt. Comdr. stripes) deftly working her communications station, AD LIBBING "... Hailing frequency four, check. Hailing frequency five, will someone please check me?" At the helm, sweat-soaked SULU (Lt. Comdr. stripes) has a service plate open, is peering inside to make delicate adjustments, AD LIBBING "... Helm, now give me a reading on four point zero zero six of full." And at the Weapons Control, CHEKOV (Full Lt.) argues with TECHNICIANS who insist photon torpedoes read "ready" while Chekov argues the computer is not relaying that information. (Appendix A)

65 ANGLE ON THE ELEVATOR DOORS 65

snapping open -- and there is Kirk. For the moment no one notices him, and he stands watching, remembering. And then he moves forward toward the command center.

66 ACROSS UHURA TO KIRK 66

as she is the first to see him. She reacts, pleased:

UHURA
Captain... Starfleet just signalled your transfer-of-command orders!

67 ANOTHER ANGLE - VARIOUS REACTIONS 67

as everyone else is suddenly aware of Kirk.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED: 67

All work stops, with various AD LIBBED greetings from the old crew: "Admiral Kirk..." "It's the Captain...!" etc., etc. But most sit or stand, simply gaping at Kirk, all quite awed. The old hands, Uhura, Sulu, and Chekov start converging on Kirk. But he gestures them back, speaking crisply.

KIRK
I appreciate the welcome; I wish the circumstances were less critical.
(to Uhura)
Epsilon Nine is monitoring the intruder; keep a channel open to them.
(glances around)
Where is Captain Decker?

SULU
He's in Engineering, sir...
(uncomfortable, indicates Captain's chair)
He doesn't know.

Kirk reacts with some exasperation, starts away, addresses Chekov:

KIRK
Mr. Chekov, assemble the crew on the Rec Deck at 0400 hours. I want to show them what we're facing.

And Kirk moves to the elevator, enters, is gone. The moment the elevator doors snap closed:

SULU
I wouldn't have wanted to have been standing in his way. He wanted her back; he got her!

ALIEN ENSIGN
(perturbed)
And Captain Decker? He's been with the ship every minute of her refitting...

UHURA
(brittle)
Ensign -- our chances of coming back from this mission in one piece may have just doubled...!

68 INT. CORRIDOR 68

As Kirk moves along CHAPEL (now in the uniform of a medical officer) appears, guiding a packet of medical supplies. The anti-grav container is very WIDE and takes up much of the width of the corridor. Chapel's back is to Kirk, and she speaks brusquely to him over her shoulder.

CHAPEL
(as she pushes by)
Perishable cultures. Sorry --

KIRK
You have priority, Doctor.

Chapel whirls around at the familiar voice. She is elated:

CHAPEL
Admiral... Captain, I should say. I've just heard. Congratulations.

KIRK
(as they shake hands)
'Congratulations' on being assigned this mission, Chapel? Are you that happy about it?

CHAPEL
It's my first assignment as ship's doctor, sir. I suppose I've been thinking mainly of that.

KIRK
Can you handle it?

CHAPEL
Yes sir! I can! *

Then she hesitates, a glimmer of a smile as she adds: *

CHAPEL
(continuing)
But I wouldn't have objected to working under Dr. McCoy, sir. He's the best; Starfleet should have forced him back into service, kidnapped him if necessary. * * * * *

And she moves her container on down the corridor.

69 ANOTHER ANGLE - CLOSE ON KIRK 69

who watches Chapel move on down the corridor -- he's frowning as if suddenly struck by a thought. Then he moves on, his brain beginning to formulate a plan. *

70 INT. ENGINEERING SECTION 70

The entire complex a beehive of pre-departure activity. ENGINEERING PERSONNEL (at least a third of them female) coming and going, the platform-elevators (small, one-man lifts to various levels) busy. A gentle but constant HUM and WHIRR flows from the engine core, to indicate a pre-idling mode. There will be continual AD LIBBED conversation among the Technicians. (Appendix B)

Now the Engine Room door opens and Kirk steps into the area. He stands a moment observing the activity. A grizzled ENGINEERING CHIEF pushes a huge condenser on an anti-grav device past Kirk with a respectful "watch it, sir" admonishment. Kirk moves on to:

71 THE INTERMIX CHAMBER 71

at the middle of the power shaft. Very NOISY here, and a continual CACOPHONY of COMPUTERIZED AND HUMAN VOICES calling off equipment checks. (See Appropriate Appendix.) And grouped around a section of burnt-out circuitry are WILLARD DECKER, Captain's stripes, handsome, in his early 30's; Scott, and two Technicians. Decker and Scott are working feverishly uncoupling the device, probing its innards. Decker has discovered the problem, removed several transistor-type parts, taps them with a pencil-sized sonic analyzer.

DECKER
(quietly elated)
I thought so! See... the transporter sensor was not activated... *

SCOTT
(impressed)
Aye, you were dead right about that... *
(to Technician)
Cleary, put a back-up sensor into the unit.

72 ACROSS THEM TO KIRK 72

as the Technician prepares to install the device, Scott glances up to see Kirk.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED: 72

He looks from Decker to Kirk in acute embarrassment (so that we should realize Scott hasn't mentioned Kirk's taking over to Decker). Decker now notices Kirk, reacts pleased. *

DECKER
Admiral Kirk...
(shakes Kirk's hand)
We're getting a top-brass send-off...?
(self-assured grin)
She'll launch on schedule if we have to tow her out with our bare hands. Right, Scotty?

SCOTTY
(lamely)
Aye, sir, that we will...

KIRK
(to Decker)
Will, let's go over here and talk...

He indicates corner. Decker glances bemusedly at Kirk, then turns to Scott:

DECKER
Let me know when the back-up is in place.

73 ACROSS SCOTT TO KIRK AND DECKER 73

as Scott AD LIBS a glum "Aye, sir," and watches them walk across the Chamber.

74 A CORNER OF THE INTERMIX CHAMBER 74

just a little quieter here, with Kirk and Decker arriving, and Decker saying blithely:

DECKER
All due respect, sir, I hope this isn't a Starfleet pep talk; I'm just too busy.

Kirk eyes Decker -- then decides the best way to say it is plainly, directly. * *

KIRK
I'm taking the Center seat. I'm sorry, Will. * *

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED: 74

DECKER
You are what...?

KIRK
I'm replacing you as Captain of the Enterprise. *

Decker seems shocked into silence; he can only peer at Kirk who reaches tentatively as though to clasp a paternal hand on Decker's shoulder, then withdraws it and continues quickly.

KIRK
(continuing)
You'll stay aboard as Executive Officer... a temporary grade reduction to Commander. *

DECKER
(finding his voice)
-- You, personally, are assuming command?

KIRK
Yes.

DECKER
May I ask why?

KIRK
(nods)
My experience -- five years out there dealing with unknowns like this -- my familiarity with the Enterprise, this crew...

DECKER
Admiral, this is an almost totally new Enterprise. You don't know her a tenth as well as I do.

75 ANOTHER ANGLE - TO SHOW SCOTT IN B.G. (ACROSS THE ROOM) 75

Scott, working on the relay, but continually glancing at Kirk and Decker with worried concern, as Kirk replies:

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

75 CONTINUED: 75

KIRK
That's why you're staying aboard. I'm sorry, Will.

DECKER
No, Admiral, I don't think you are; not one damned bit. I remember when you recommended me for this command. You told me how envious you were, and if only you could find a way to get a starship command again. Well, sir, it looks like you found a way.

Kirk is silent a moment, peering levelly at Decker, who returns the gaze with equal intensity. Then:

KIRK
Report to the bridge, Commander. Immediately. *

Decker EXITS. Kirk waits, collecting his composure as he watches him go. Then Kirk turns to glare at Scott. Interrupted by a flare as something shorts out at the mechanism where Scott and Decker had been working. Technician (Cleary) reacts, hits an intercom button fast:

TECHNICIAN (CLEARY)
Transporter room, come in! Urgent!
(to Scott)
Redline on the transporters, Mister Scott!

Scott whirls to a console fast, speaks urgently!

SCOTT
Transporter room, do not engage! Do not...

TECHNICIAN (CLEARY)
(reacting to a reading; interruption)
Too late; they're beaming now!

Kirk is exiting on a run, followed by Scott.

RODDENBERRY.COM

76 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - INCLUDING TRANSPORTER CHAMBER (O) 76

An unusually defective-looking TRANSPORTER EFFECT in progress, alternately flashing and glowing -- even the Transporter SOUND seems wrong, as if struggling to overcome some problem. At the console, CHIEF RAND and ASSISTANT are reacting in surprised, near-horror as they attempt vainly to save the situation.

RAND
(into intercom)
Starfleet, override us!
OVERRIDE...! Yank them back!

Sudenly, from Rand's console, a VIOLET GLARE -- a PROTESTING SOUND from the circuitry. And on the console a red-warning light now begins flashing.

STARFLEET VOICE
Unable to retrieve their pattern, Enterprise...!

Rand reacts in real horror now as human forms begin to FAINTLY MATERIALIZE, then FADE AWAY, then REAPPEAR IN FAINTLY MISSHAPEN FORM as she frantically works controls. Kirk ENTERS fast, steps to the console to assist Rand; Scott has also come in and moves to the console, brushes aside the Asst. Chief, and begins manipulating the additional controls himself.

KIRK
(into intercom)
Starfleet, boost your matter gain; we need more signal!

SCOTT
We're losing the pattern...!

RAND
Oh, no! They're forming!

77 CLOSER ON THE TRANSPORTER CHAMBER (O) 77

with the human forms FLUTTERING INTO FULLER AND FULLER MATERIALIZATION, FRIGHTENINGLY,HORRIBLY MISSHAPEN. We RECOGNIZE one form as the Vulcan, Sonak -- the other a human WOMAN. They MATERIALIZE; we HEAR A MOAN form from the Vulcan -- the Woman's SCREAM OF PAIN. Then, all at once, the half-materialized bodies are gone; the transporter chamber is empty.

KIRK
Oh, my God...!

78 KIRK, SCOTT AND RAND 78

gazing, horrified, at the empty chamber.

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED: 78

KIRK
(into intercom)
Starfleet, do you have them?

A moment of utter, vacant silence -- and Kirk and Scott look at each other again, their pained faces presaging the answer they already know:

STARFLEET VOICE
(shaken)
Enterprise... what we got back didn't live long. Fortunately.

Another moment of stunned silence, and then Kirk hits the transmission button -- fighting to control his voice as:

KIRK
Starfleet... Kirk. Please... express my condolences to their families. Commander Sonak's can be reached through the Vulcan Embassy.
(sees Rand's stricken expression)
There was nothing you could have done, Rand. It wasn't your fault.

And before Rand can answer, Kirk leaves the room.

79 INT. CORRIDOR - TRAVELING WITH KIRK 79

as Kirk steps out, and the doors snap closed behind him. In the corridor the furor of the hurried departure is, as everywhere, quite evident: CREW MEMBERS move back and forth. But Kirk does not see them; his mind is tormented by the transporter accident -- was there something he should have done, could have done, to prevent it? Should he launch on schedule with the starship this unready? Had he done right in yielding to his terrible needs for starship command again, forcing Starfleet to give her to him? Would Decker's knowledge of the new design have prevented the accident?

Kirk reaches a corridor intersection, looks around, realizes he's lost track of where he is. A passing YEOMAN stops in response to his puzzled expression.

KIRK
Turboshaft eight...?

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: 79

YEOMAN
Back that way, sir.

She's indicating back the direction from which Kirk came. He nods his thanks, turns and moves back down the corridor.

80 DECKER 80

hurrying down the corridor. The two face each other a silent moment, Decker studying Kirk curiously.

KIRK
We'll have to replace Commander Sonak. I'd still like a Vulcan there, if possible...

DECKER
None available, Captain. There's no one in fact, who's fully rated on this design.

KIRK
You are, Mister Decker. I'm afraid you'll have to double as Science Officer.

And Kirk moves on, Decker stands gazing reflectively after him.

81 thru 84 OMITTED 81 thru 84

85 CLOSE - FULL SHOT OF THE KLINGON SHIP BEING DESTROYED (AS SEEN ON A VIEWER) (O) 85

(in the last part of scene which showed the Klingon Captain speaking in Klingonese and an English print-out interpretation appearing at the screen bottom. The Klingon ship nearly totalled; one engine nacelle gone, smoke and flame spewing from the other, etc. And then that final WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT STRIKING AND SPECTACULARLY DESTROYING THE SHIP, etc.)

But this time, O.S., we HEAR GASPS of incredulity from many throats (an audience), and various AD LIBBED comments: "My God...!" "I don't believe it...!" "What could it be...?!" Etc., etc.

And then, immediately following this, on the viewer:

86 THE LUMINESCENT CLOUD (AS SEEN ON A VIEWER) (O) 86

(as in earlier Epsilon 9 viewer -- but with no music, only more AD LIBBED exclamations from an audience.) The viewer goes black.

87 INT. RECREATION DECK (M) 87

We SEE that all this was being viewed by the CREW MEMBERS (Aliens included) assembled on the Rec Deck.

The Recreation Deck is one of the largest areas on the ship, several deck levels high, a part of one wall consisting of picture windows, through which can be SEEN sections of the drydock structure outside.

On another wall is a large viewer, on which was just shown the Klingon transmission. Leading off and away from this deck area are what are obviously other specific recreation areas -- gymnasiums, food centers, game rooms, lounges, etc.

88 ANOTHER ANGLE OF THE REC DECK - HIGHER LEVEL 88

as the Crew Members chatter in low, grim tones -- Kirk (now with Captain's stripes) appears. As he comes into view, the two hundred or so crew below go silent. Kirk grimly indicates the now blank viewer: *

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

88 CONTINUED: 88

KIRK
That's all we know about it; except that it's now 2.2 days from Earth. Enterprise is the only Federation starship that stands in its way. *

89 ANOTHER ANGLE - CREW REACTIONS 89

as the CAMERA FINDS various faces: human, alien; most young, all intelligent, forthright -- anxious. Kirk has paused a moment, now continues.

KIRK (O.S.)
We assume there is a vessel of some type at the heart of the cloud. Our orders are to intercept, investigate; and take whatever action is necessary... and possible.
(beat)
... We can only hope that the life form aboard that vessel reasons as we do.

90 ANGLE ON UHURA 90

standing near an intercom, which just then has emitted a bosun's WHISTLE intercom signal.

BRIDGE VOICE
(from intercom)
Bridge to Captain. Priority signal from Epsilon Nine --

Kirk leans over to the intercom, speaks into it:

KIRK
Put it on the viewer here...!

91 ON THE REC DECK VIEWER (O) 91

as all eyes turn to the viewer which fades into a view of Commander Branch, in the Epsilon 9 monitor room. Branch is tense, reflecting extreme urgency. Near Branch, working intently at the console are the Female Lieutenant and a Technician.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED: 91

BRANCH
(from the viewer)
Enterprise... the Cloud is now within sensor range. Definitely a powerfield of some kind... larger than our solar system... Must be something incredible inside there generating it. *
*

KIRK
(into intercom)
Epsilon Nine, Enterprise, Kirk. Have you attempted communication?

BRANCH
Yes, sir; transmitting linguacode friendship messages on all frequencies.

TECHNICIAN
I have a null reading at the center of the 'cloud,' sir.

BRANCH
(inspecting another console)
Some kind of energy surge...
(looking up)
Enterprise... they could be mistaking our scans as a hostile act...
(reacts at reading)
Deflectors, emergency full!

LIEUTENANT
Definitely something inside there but all scans are being reflected back.
(studies readings)
Receiving an odd pattern now...
(toward Branch)
They seem to be reacting to our scans, sir.

Branch hits an alarm button; we HEAR ALARM KLAXON SOUNDING. The viewer IMAGE DISTORTS, clears again while Branch -- facing his viewer, continues urgently:

BRANCH
(continuing)
We are under attack...!

KIRK
(to Uhura)
External view...!

92 ON THE VIEWER - EXT. THE DESTRUCTION OF EPSILON 9 (O) 92

as the image of Branch is immediately replaced by an external view of the planetoid, and the LUMINESCENT CLOUD (at about the same distance from which the Klingon cruisers were attacked).

(CONTINUED)

92 CONTINUED: 92

Then it STRIKES the planetoid WITH FULL, CATACLYSMIC FORCE. The viewer IMAGE BREAKS UP -- and immediately the entire Starfleet base becomes a maelstrom of FLARING ENERGY, shattered structure, flying debris. And then, all at once, there is nothing -- empty space, Epsilon 9 is gone. We SEE only the stars; and the mysterious LUMINESCENT CLOUD moving across the distant sky.

(NOTE: The above is entirely SILENT, and when it is finished, not a word is spoken.)

KIRK (O.S.)
(after a moment)
Viewer off.

93 ANOTHER ANGLE - KIRK 93

as the viewer goes blank, all still facing the screen. Then Kirk turns to the room as if to comment. Then he stops -- nothing he can say will add at all to what they've just seen. Instead:

KIRK
Pre-launch countdown will commence in forty minutes. *

94 ANOTHER ANGLE - CREW 94

The scene they have just witnessed still vivid in their minds as they gaze somberly up toward Kirk who is exiting. The bridge crew follows him out. Not a word is said as the remainder of the crew waits another moment, then begins to disperse toward their duty stations too.

95 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE IN DRYDOCK (S) 95

Spectacular ORBIT VIEW of the giant starship in the process of release. BEYOND US, in half light, EARTH LOOMS HUGE. The dock welders are gone; the supply pods float away from the ship. Little tongues of blue flame spurt from the ship's maneuvering jets.

96 CLOSER - THE ENTERPRISE (S) 96

as the large dock umbilical is released, floats free of its starship attachment. Dock departure is imminent.

97 INT. BRIDGE 97

Kirk in the center seat, intently studying the Navigation console in front of him (at the Navigator's station, which is unoccupied.) Other bridge personnel are busy with their pre-launch duties (APPENDIX C).

UHURA
Transporter Room and Chief Engineer Scott report transporter system fully repaired and now functioning normally, sir.

SULU
Dock signals clear, Captain.

KIRK
Reply we are holding position awaiting final crew replacements.

UHURA
Captain, Transporter Personnel reports the Navigator...
(consults console)
... Lieutenant Junior Grade Ilia (Eye-lee-ah) is already aboard, and en route to the bridge.

98 ANGLE ON DECKER - AT THE SCIENCE STATION 98

as Decker (now wearing Commander stripes) reacts, almost startled, and Uhura continues:

UHURA
She's a Deltan.

Uhura's tone and expression convey "Deltan" in a certain, special manner.

KIRK
(reprovingly)
And there are no finer navigators in Starfleet, Commander.

This last is interrupted by:

RODDENBERRY.COM

98A ANGLE ON THE ELEVATOR DOORS 98A

as they snap open, and there emerges a breathtakingly beautiful young woman (uniformed as a Navigator Lieutenant) who strides purposefully onto the bridge. A stunning figure, but hairless, entirely bald but for delicate eyebrows and eyelashes. Her bald head is not at all unattractive, in fact exudes an aura of sensual nudity. Indeed, her whole being exudes sensuality. (This is a racial characteristic, not a deliberate presence.) She approaches Kirk:

(NOTE: Throughout this sequence, Sulu eyes ILIA with unrestrained admiration.)

ILIA
Lieutenant Ilia reporting for duty, sir.

KIRK
(formally; rising)
Welcome aboard, Lieutenant.

99 ACROSS ILIA TO DECKER 99

as Ilia starts to speak, suddenly stops: she has just then noticed Decker, who has stepped from his station to face her. For an electric moment their eyes meet, hold in unquestioned recognition.

DECKER *
Hello, Ilia. *

ILIA *
(surprised) *
Decker...! *

Kirk has observed this with surprise and some concern (it presages possible complications). Decker turns to Kirk, slightly uncomfortable at this. *

DECKER *
I was stationed on the Lieutenant's *
home planet some years ago... *

Ilia looks from Kirk back to Decker, puzzled at his sleeve stripes. *

ILIA *
(eyes his rank *
stripes) *
'Commander' Decker? *

KIRK *
Our Exec and Science Officer... *

(CONTINUED)

99 CONTINUED: 99

DECKER
(bitingly)
Captain Kirk has the utmost confidence in me.

Kirk flashes a hard glance at Decker, then toward Ilia too.

KIRK
(pointedly)
And in you, too, Lieutenant.

ILIA
My oath of celibacy is on record, Captain. May I assume my duties?

While respectful, her tone of voice has been just as firm as Kirk's. * *

KIRK
By all means.

100 ACROSS KIRK TO UHURA 100

receiving a message, now relaying it.

UHURA
Captain, Starfleet reports our last six crew members ready to beam up...
(puzzled)
... but one of them is refusing to step into the transporter.

Just as Kirk a moment before was tense, now suddenly he's relaxed again; he rises.

KIRK
(pleased)
Oh? I'll see that he beams up...! *

And he hurries from the bridge, onto the elevator, is gone. A moment of puzzled silence, then:

DECKER
Mr. Sulu, take Lieutenant Ilia in hand.

SULU
(startled)
Sir...?
(then understands)
Yes, of course...
(to Ilia)
Your pre-programming is already set in, Lieutenant.

(CONTINUED)

100 CONTINUED: 100

Sulu has almost tripped getting out of his chair. He starts offering Ilia his hand, then thinks better of it, withdraws it abruptly, immediately busies himself punching out equations on her console... AD LIBS, "It's all on the computer. You'll have no problem..." Sulu is nervous, fluttery around this lovely creature -- now hits a wrong switch. Produces a BEEPING SOUND which he fumbles to shut off. She smiles; speaks quietly, repeats:

ILIA
I'm sworn to celibacy, Mister Sulu. That makes me as safe as any human female.

Sulu catches her eye but before he can reply, Decker has moved in beside Ilia.

DECKER
I know the Captain meant no personal insult.

ILIA
(eyes on console)
I would never take advantage of a sexually immature species.
(looks at him)
You can assure him that's true, can't you?

Clearly, the remark carries special, personal significance.

101 & 102 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM 101 & 102

Kirk entering as Rand and her assistant electronically list the last of the five arrivals who are leaving the Transporter Chamber. Kirk calls through intercom to the last arrival, a young female Yeoman.

KIRK
Yeoman, what was the problem down there?

YEOMAN
(through intercom)
He insisted we go first, sir. Said something about first seeing how it scrambled our molecules.

(CONTINUED)

101 & 102 CONTINUED: 101 & 102

KIRK
Thank you, Yeoman.
(hits transmit control)
Starfleet, this is Captain Kirk. The officer is to be beamed up immediately!

103 ANGLE ON THE CHAMBER (O) 103

A moment, then again the GENERATING HUMMING, and then the familiar BEAMING EFFECT. And then you SEE McCOY! He fully MATERIALIZES. He looks himself over as if in pleased surprise he is still in one piece. CAMERA PANS McCoy from the Transporter Chamber to Kirk who is having a hard time containing his amusement and delight.

KIRK
Well, for a man who swore he'd never return to Starfleet...

McCOY
(flat, tight)
What happened, Captain, sir, was that your revered Admiral Nogura invoked a little known -- and seldom used -- reserve activation clause...
(snaps)
... in simpler language, Captain, sir, they drafted me!

KIRK
(straight-faced)
They didn't...!

Kirk has offered his hand, but McCoy is already flaring:

McCOY
This was your idea! It was your idea, wasn't it!

KIRK
Bones, there's a 'thing' out there --

McCOY
-- Why is any object we don't understand called a 'thing'?

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

103 CONTINUED: 103

KIRK
(continues)
-- headed this way. I need you...

McCOY
Were you behind this?

KIRK
(nods)
Bones, I need you badly.

Kirk extends his hand again; McCoy delays some moments -- then finally responds. And once done, it is the long handclasp of two old friends reunited despite their differences. Now McCoy turns to Rand.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

103 CONTINUED: 103

McCOY
Permission to come aboard, sir?

RAND
(elated)
Permission granted, sir!

And McCoy moves toward the door, grumbling:

McCOY
I hear Chapel's an MD now; I need a top nurse, not a doctor who'll argue every diagnosis... And --

Even when he's in the corridor his grumbling trails after him:

McCOY
(continuing)
... they've probably redesigned sickbay, too. Engineers love to change things...

104 FULL ON KIRK 104

as he gazes fondly after the grumbling McCoy, and now turns to the intercom, flips it on:

KIRK
All decks, this is the Captain. Prepare for immediate departure.

105 thru 108 INT. ENTERPRISE - MONTAGE - DEPARTURE SCENES (APPENDIX D) 105 thru 108

Bulkheads closing, feed lines disengaging, main ENGINES HUM into life, crew personnel hurrying to launch stations. SHOTS of cargo deck, down to Engineering Section slamming shut. Drydock area clearing, work lights go out, warning lights go on.

109 INT. BRIDGE 109

All flight positions manned, ready.

UHURA
Dock control reports ready, sir.

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED: 109

SULU
Helm ready, sir.

ILIA
Orbital departure on plot, sir.

UHURA
Yard command signalling clear, sir.

KIRK
Maneuvering thrusters, Mister Sulu.

SULU
Maneuvering thrusters, sir.

KIRK
Hold station.

SULU
(working controls)
Thrusters at station-keeping, sir.

110 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - ENTERPRISE AND DRYDOCK (S) 110

The starship within the drydock, but now the maneuvering -- thrusters spurt pinpoints of BLUE FLAME. The drydock is ready for the starship's departure -- not a single pod or shuttlecraft in sight. The starship looms majestically within the lacework girders.

111 OMITTED 111

112 INT. BRIDGE 112

as Kirk hesitates just an instant, seems to hold his breath. Then:

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

112 CONTINUED: 112

KIRK
Thrusters ahead, Mister Sulu. Take us out.

113 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - ENTERPRISE AND DRYDOCK (S) 113

The maneuvering -- thrusters spurt more BLUE FLAME. The Enterprise begins moving, DOMINATING SCREEN as it moves majestically out from the drydock.

THEME MUSIC IN AND UP.

114 thru 117 CLOSER ANGLES - ENTERPRISE (S) 114 thru 117

emphasizing fine detail reality of both drydock and starship as saucer section emerges. Tiny space-suited human figures watch the departing ship. CAMERA HOLDS ON STARSHIP until completely clear of the orbital dock.

117A INT. ENGINEERING SECTION 117A

Here in Engineering Section, the ENGINE THROBBING SLOWLY BUILDS to a THUNDERING SOUND. A glow from the central unit indicates anti-matter intermix underway. The Engineering Section shudders as the great engines draw more and more power.

SCOTT
Intermix set, Bridge, impulse power at your discretion.

118 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING KIRK 118

as he hesitates just an instant. This is the moment he's awaited, and to him it is equally as sensuous and gratifying as making love -- which, perhaps, he is -- to his mistress: The Enterprise.

KIRK
(after a moment)
Impulse power, Mr. Sulu. Ahead Warp point-five.

119 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE (S) 119

The maneuvering jets turn off, the impulse drive glows. The Enterprise begins moving perceptibly faster -- behind her, the drydock diminishing rapidly in size.

RODDENBERRY.COM

119A INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER 119A

KIRK
Departure angle on viewer.

CHEKOV
Departure angle.

We SEE viewer IMAGE SWITCH to a departing view of lovely bluish, cloud-laced image of Earth as it grows smaller, smaller, dwindling quickly as the starship gathers speed.

KIRK
Viewer ahead.

And viewer IMAGE SWITCHED to show the star patterned space ahead.

120 EXT. SPACE - SATURN 120

with its colorful rings and multiple moons FILLING a major portion of the FRAME.

KIRK (V.O.)
Captain's Log, stardate 7412.6.
2.7 hours from launch...

121 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER 121

All hands tense with the excitement of the journey, on the viewer Saturn -- and its rings -- are falling away (BEHIND US). OVER this:

KIRK (V.O.)
(concerned)
... in order to intercept the Intruder at the earliest possible time, we must now risk engaging Warp drive while still within the solar system...

End of log.

122 ANGLE ON DECKER - SCIENCE STATION 122

punching in equations on his console, reaching a reading:

DECKER
Captain, assuming we have full Warp capability, accelerating to Warp Seven on leaving solar system will bring us to IP with the Intruder in twenty point one hours.

122A INCLUDE ILIA 122A

checking her console.

ILIA
Science Officer's computations confirmed, sir.

And Decker and Ilia glance at each other -- and again, you know there is something more than casual in this.

123 ANGLE ON THE ELEVATOR DOORS 123

as they open, and McCoy appears, walks over to Kirk who swings his chair around to face him. McCoy is his usual dour self.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

123 CONTINUED: 123

KIRK
Well, Bones, do the new medical facilities meet with your approval?

McCOY
They do not. It's like working in a damned computer center.

KIRK
(turning to Decker)
Programming ready?

DECKER
Program set for standard Warp entry, Captain...

Kirk starts to swing his chair to normal position -- Decker calls:

DECKER
(continuing)
... but I still recommend further simulation study.

KIRK
Mister Decker; every minute brings that object nearer Earth!
(using intercom)
Engineering! Stand by for Warp Drive.

McCoy is watching Kirk, a bit surprised at his abruptness to Decker.

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
(worried)
Captain, we need further Warp simulation on the flow sensors...

KIRK
Engineer, we need Warp speed now!

McCOY
(very gently)
You're pushing, Jim. Your people know their jobs.

Kirk flashes McCoy a glance of annoyance -- then back to using intercom:

124 INT. ENGINEERING 124

The main intermix chambers GLOWING with power; the LOW RUMBLE of the main engines coming to life.

The CAMERA FINDS Scott in the chamber:

SCOTT
(into intercom)
Hold one minute, please, Captain --

He steps to his console where an ASST. ENGINEER is working a computer, studying the readouts, punching buttons, etc. Scott stands over him, grimly observing. Finally, the Asst. simply shrugs with frustration.

ASST.
That's it, sir; I can't do any better.

SCOTT
(grim)
Aye, lad...
(into intercom)
It's borderline on the simulator, * Captain: I canna guarantee that * she'll...

125 INT. BRIDGE 125

as Kirk, annoyed, interrupts Scott on the intercom.

KIRK
Warp Drive, Mr. Scott.

McCoy still watches curiously as Kirk turns to the * helm: *

KIRK
(continuing)
Ahead Warp One, Mr. Sulu.

SULU
Accelerating to Warp One, sir.

Sulu moves his controls forward -- everyone waits tensely -- and then we HEAR THE INCREASING THROB OF THE ACCELERATING ENGINES.

SULU
(continuing)
Warp point seven... point eight ... nine...

126 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE - AFT AND AHEAD (S) 126

We SEE the WARP POWER EFFECT build up between the engine "nacelles" -- then the starship makes the QUANTUM LEAP into warp drive. The stars ahead shift, streak, colors pulsating and changing as the shift exceeds the wave lengths of the light spectrum -- and the stars congeal into a MASS ahead.

127 INT. BRIDGE - PAST KIRK TO THE VIEWER (O) 127

as the viewer shows the same WARP DRIVE EFFECT. For another moment all remain tense, and then all at once relax, release their breaths. Smiles.

SULU
Warp One, sir.

Kirk smiles, pleased, starts swinging his chair around, at the same time calling:

KIRK
Mr. Decker --

Kirk never finishes the word. At that instant, on the viewer, a WORMHOLE DISTORTION: a sudden SPIRALING OF STARS AND FLUID LIGHT narrowing into a VORTEX into which the Enterprise hurtles. A space trap, a deadly pandemonium of ALARM KLAXONS, BELLS, VOICES:

KIRK
(continuing)
Wormhole!... Get us back on impulse power! Full reverse! *
*

128 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (S) 128

Enterprise has been caught in a matter-time distortion, sucked into a cylindrical "hole in space" (the Wormhole distortion), stars and planets become strange, elongated shapes, with the Enterprise drawn deeper and deeper into the vortex.

129 INT. BRIDGE 129

The KLAXONS and BELLS CONTINUE, and the crew responding:

SULU
Negative helm control, Captain!
Going reverse on impulse power...!

(CONTINUED)

129 CONTINUED: 129

UHURA
Subspace frequencies are jammed by Wormhole effect!

COMPUTER VOICE
(terse, flat)
Collision alert...!
Collision alert...!

(NOTE: This continues through entire sequence.)

DECKER
(consulting his viewer)
Negative control from inertial lag will continue 22 point five seconds before forward velocity slows to sub-light speed...!

ILIA
Unidentified small object has been pulled into the wormhole with us, Captain! Directly ahead...! *

KIRK
Forcefields up full! Put object on viewer...! *

130 ANGLE ON THE MAIN VIEWER (O) 130

showing (a magnification view) of a tiny point of light directly ahead. Meanwhile, Kirk shouts an AD LIBBED order to Sulu: "Go to Manual override!" Sulu AD LIBS, "No manual response...!" (Through all this, McCoy stands frozen, waiting -- and expecting -- the worse.) Meanwhile, Ilia has reached over to Sulu's console, hit a button, AD LIBBING, "Navigational deflectors coming up...!" And then with alarmed dismay:

ILIA
Navigational deflectors inoperative...!
(consulting her console, alarmed)
Directional control also inoperative, Captain...!

DECKER
Wormhole distortion has overloaded main power systems...! * *

* *

131 CLOSE ON MAIN VIEWER (O) 131

The picture is switched through two further levels of magnification, enlarging the object: an elongated, distorted, pitted asteroid, tumbling toward the Enterprise on a collision course. *

132 ANGLE PAST KIRK TO VIEWER (O) 132

KIRK
(toward Ilia)
Time to impact...?

ILIA
Twelve seconds...!

KIRK
Mr. Chekov, stand by on the phasers...!

DECKER
(racing to Chekov's station)
Belay that phaser order! Arm photon torpedoes...! *

133 ANOTHER ANGLE - McCOY NOTICING KIRK 133

who has just glanced, surprised at Decker (for countermanding the phaser order) -- and for a split instant, Kirk seems confused. McCoy reacts with enlightenment as, meanwhile:

134 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE VIEWER (O) 134

The object even larger.

CHEKOV
Photon torpedoes armed...!

DECKER
Fire torpedoes...!

CHEKOV
(punching button)
Torpedoes away...!

ILIA
Object is an asteroid, reading mass point seven...
(consulting instruments)
Impact in eight seconds ... seven... six... five... *

135 EXT. SPACE - PAST THE ENTERPRISE AND THE ASTEROID (S) 135

as the starship's photon torpedo tubes EJECT GLOWING BALLS OF LIGHT ENERGY, which seems to float toward the oncoming asteroid, almost too slowly. And in these brief seconds, the asteroid hurtles at the Enterprise, the huge pitted rock growing even larger than the ship itself. It FILLS THE SCREEN, as the photon torpedoes hit, disintegrating the asteroid into thousands of fragments. Instantly, these fragments pulverize themselves on the ship's forward forcefield and deflector screens. The smaller pieces burn up on impact, clearly outlining the ship's forcefield barriers.

136 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 136

The asteroid fragments still smashing into the force-field screen; the smaller bits like SPARKLERS as impact heat consumes them. The larger sections bouncing away, the bridge QUIVERING as they hit.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

136 CONTINUED 136

Then one final gigantic fragment strikes, the bridge SHUDDERS. And then the viewer shows only the normal SUB-WARP EFFECT: The stars ahead, relatively stationary; a feeling of motion, but smooth, visually normal.

CHEKOV
(relieved)
We're out of it...!

SULU
Helm control restored sir.

DECKER
We are at warp point eight. Position report, Navigator...?

ILIA
Computing new interception course.

UHURA
Communications are normal, Captain.

CHEKOV
(to Kirk)
Negative damage report, sir.
(to McCoy)
No casualties reported, sir.

MCCOY
(tight)
Wrong, Mr. Chekov, there are casualties. My wits...!
(to Kirk, indignant)
As in 'frightened-out-of'...!

DECKER
(into intercom)
Engineer...report status there.

137 INT. ENGINEERING 137

with Scott and his crew pouring over the instruments -- all seem very grim. Scott, quite preoccupied, now speaks into the intercom:

SCOTT
In just a second, Exec; we're picking up the pieces down here.

138 INT. BRIDGE 138

Kirk seeming to collect his thoughts now -- he gives Decker a look, uses the intercom himself:

RODDENBERRY.COM

138 CONTINUED: 138

KIRK
Warp Drive as soon as possible, Mr. Scott.

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
(protesting)
Captain, it was our anti-matter imbalance that created the wormhole in the first place. It will happen again if we don't correct it.

KIRK
That object out there is less than two days from Earth, Mister Scott. We've got to intercept while it still <u>is</u> out there!

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
(near annoyed)
Aye, we <u>understand</u> that sir! We're doing our best.

as Kirk flips off the intercom, rises determinedly, faces Decker:

KIRK
Mr. Decker, I'd like to see you in my quarters.
(toward helm)
You have the conn, Mr. Sulu.

MCCOY
(to Kirk)
Mind if I tag along?

Kirk gives McCoy an annoyed look, then strides to the elevator. Decker, grim, follows -- McCoy brings up the rear as they EXIT.

139 ANGLE FAVORING ILIA 139

gazing worriedly at the just-closed elevator doors, as Sulu is punching figures into his console.

SULU
Maintaining warp <u>point</u> eight; I show our new heading as 287 point three Mark 105.

(CONTINUED)

139 CONTINUED: 139

Ilia's attention is directed toward Decker.

SULU
(continuing; gently, reminding)
Lieutenant Ilia...?

ILIA
(a beat; then quickly)
Confirmed, Mr. Sulu. Confirmed.

And she punches in some equations, then again peers up at the doors where she last saw Decker. She is very concerned.

140 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS 140

The doors opening, Kirk entering, McCoy moves to background while Decker stands attentively, waiting as Kirk turns to him:

KIRK
Explanation, Mr. Decker: Why was my phaser order countermanded?

DECKER
(cool, polite)
Sir, the Enterprise redesign increases phaser power by channeling it through the main engines. When they went into anti-matter imbalance, the phasers were automatically cut off.

Kirk is surprised by this information, perhaps slightly chagrined. After a beat:

KIRK
Then you acted properly, of course.

DECKER
Thank you, sir. I'm sorry if I embarrassed you.

KIRK
You did not embarrass me: You saved the ship.

DECKER
(coolly)
I'm aware of that, sir.

KIRK
(flaring)
Stop competing with me, Decker!

(CONTINUED)

140 CONTINUED: 140

DECKER
Permission to speak freely, sir?

KIRK
(tight)
Granted.

DECKER
Captain, you haven't logged a single star hour in two and a half years. That, plus your unfamiliarity with the ship's redesign -- in my opinion, your decisions are jeopardizing this vessel and this mission.

Kirk reacts with anger, struggles for and regains control.

KIRK
I trust you will... nursemaid me through these difficulties, Mister?

DECKER
Yes, sir, I intend to do that.

Kirk peers at Decker, who stands facing him determinedly.

KIRK
Then I won't keep you from your duties any longer, Commander.
(whirling on McCoy)
Yes, Doctor?

Kirk's last line has drowned out Decker's "Aye, sir." McCoy says nothing, waits until Decker is gone and the door closes behind him. Then:

McCOY
Would it help if I operate on Decker...
(indicating his own)
... put a point on his ears?

KIRK
(angrily)
To hell with Decker! I've enough problems of my own.

McCOY
I'm glad you see that. And one of them is that Decker would make a better ship commander right now than you.

141 & 142 OMITTED 141 & 142

143 INT. CORRIDOR 143

Decker moving toward an elevator -- the elevator doors open, and there is Ilia. She steps out, faces him.

ILIA
You and the Captain...?

DECKER
This was my ship -- my command -- he took it from me.

ILIA
(absorbs it; nods)
I understand your disappointment.

DECKER
Do you?
(indicating Enterprise)
She came so close to being mine.

ILIA
So did I. Remember?

Ilia moves toward her stateroom door, which snaps open, then closes behind her. Decker stands gazing at the door, remembering, regretful.

144 OMITTED 144

144A INT. KIRK'S CABIN - KIRK & McCOY 144A

KIRK
Get out of here, Bones. I'll make that an order, if necessary.

McCOY
You brought me up here. And as ship's doctor, I am now discussing the subject of command fitness.

Kirk's expression hardens.

KIRK
Make your point, Doctor.

McCOY
I intend to.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

144A CONTINUED: 144A

McCOY (CONT'D)
You rammed getting this command down Starfleet's throat. You hit them so hard they hadn't time to see what you were really after...

KIRK
(overlapping; hard)
And if I get this job done out here, it doesn't make a damned bit of difference what my motivations are!

McCOY
It makes a hell of a difference! You've used this emergency to get the Enterprise back -- what's more, you intend to keep her, don't you! And God help any of us whose lives get in the way of that!

Before Kirk can answer, there's a SIGNAL from his cabin viewer.

UHURA'S INTERCOM VOICE
Bridge to Captain.

144B ANGLE TO INCLUDE CABIN VIEWER 144B

as Kirk turns to it.

KIRK
Viewer on.

At his VOICE COMMAND, the viewer comes on with AN IMAGE of Uhura at her console.

UHURA FROM VIEWER
Signal from a Federation-registered long-range shuttle, sir. She wishes to come alongside, and lock on.

KIRK
For what purpose?

On the viewer, Chekov's IMAGE replaces Uhura.

CHEKOV FROM VIEWER
My security scans show it has a Grade-One Priority, Captain. Non-belligerency confirmed. I suspect it is a courier of some kind.

(CONTINUED)

144B CONTINUED: 144B

KIRK
Very well, Mr. Chekov, see to it. Viewer off.

Viewer IMAGE FADES. Kirk turns back to McCoy whose question of Kirk's fitness still hangs there between them. Eye to eye -- then, finally:

KIRK
(continuing)
I don't like the Kirk you're showing me, Bones. You can put the mirror down.

McCoy breathes an audible sigh of relief.

145 OMITTED 145

146 EXT. SPACE - THE SHUTTLE (S) 146

traveling at a rapid speed; it carries warp-capacity nacelles which dwarf the smaller 8 to 10 position shuttle fuselage. The CAMERA HOLDS ON THE SHUTTLE as it overtakes the Enterprise, the ENTERPRISE COMING INTO VIEW, and the shuttle slowing and beginning to move between the starship's giant nacelles.

147 EXT. SPACE - THROUGH WINDOW IN OFFICERS' LOUNGE - THE ENTERPRISE AND THE SHUTTLE (S) 147

About the size of a fighter airplane floating in over the vastness of an aircraft carrier. The shuttle slows further, hovering now. Then its fuselage pod detaches from the warp drive nacelles -- the pod moving slowly but precisely toward the starship's command airlock.

148 INT. POD HATCH ENTRY AREA 148

as we HEAR the CLANK and WHOOSH of the AIRLOCK MECHANISM. Chekov is standing by with a security man.

A moment later the hatch slips open -- TO REVEAL Spock. A proud Spock, impassively Vulcan, almost contemptuously aloof. His hair is now trimmed in neat Vulcan style; he wears Vulcan attire (simple, civilian, utilitarian).

SPOCK
Permission to come aboard, sir?

(CONTINUED)

148 CONTINUED: 148

CHEKOV
Granted, sir! Granted!

Spock is already moving out of the pod entry area, impassive, no greeting on his lips; no friendship in his expression.

149 EXT. SPACE - THE SHUTTLE LEAVING 149

pulling away from Enterprise.

150 INT. BRIDGE 150

The elevator doors open, and there is Spock. It takes everyone a moment to believe their eyes. Then, the Bridge crew AD LIB their surprise and pleasure.

KIRK
Spock...! Spock, where... how...?

Kirk, smiling, is moving toward Spock with hand outstretched. But Spock has already turned and moved toward the science console where Decker sits.

SPOCK
Commander, if I may...?

150A AT SCIENCE CONSOLE 150A

It takes Decker a moment to realize that Spock wants to take over the console. He begins getting to his feet, throwing Kirk a look. But Kirk's attention is totally on Spock. And Spock is already intent on computations he is beginning to punch into the science console computer.

SPOCK
I have been monitoring your Starfleet transmissions, Captain, your engine design difficulties...

Spock continues to punch information into the science computer -- a monitor screen IMAGE begins to show complex equations which Spock inspects -- he makes a further computer punchout and inspects a second monitor IMAGE of other equations. Only then does Spock seem to become aware of Kirk and Decker standing there with questioning expressions.

SPOCK
(continuing)
I offer my services as Science Officer.

(CONTINUED)

150A CONTINUED: 150A

Kirk starts to grin -- then remembers to wipe it off his face as he turns to Decker:

KIRK
If our Executive Officer has no objections...?

DECKER
(interrupting)
Of course not. I'm aware of Mister Spock's qualifications.

KIRK
(grinning openly now; turns, calls)
Mister Chekov, log Mister Spock's Starfleet commission reactivated; list him as Science Officer; both effective immediately.

151 ANGLE TO INCLUDE ELEVATOR DOORS 151

as they SNAP open -- McCoy and Chapel appear. Chapel sees Spock at the science console -- she moves in quickly, overjoyed. Even McCoy seems pleased.

CHAPEL
Mr. Spock...!!!

McCOY
So help me, I'm actually pleased to see you.

But as Chapel crosses to Spock, her pleased smile brightening her whole face, Spock turns, dismisses her presence with a cold disinterested glance -- Chapel stops, stands dumbfounded. Spock gives McCoy a similar glance -- turns back to his console readings as:

UHURA
That's how we all feel, Mister...

The same cold glance causes Uhura to stop in mid-sentence. Several grins directed toward Spock are now fading from bridge crew faces. Spock has turned back again for a last quick reading at the console and now stands -- totally ignoring everyone else as he speaks coolly, unemotionally to Kirk:

SPOCK
With your permission, I will now discuss these fuel equations with the Engineer.

(CONTINUED)

151 CONTINUED: 151

Kirk manages a nod, a bit dumbfounded himself at Spock's strange manner. Spock heads for the elevator -- puzzled expressions from the entire bridge crew. Then Kirk calls after him, very sincerely:

KIRK
Mister Spock, welcome aboard!

Spock continues on to the elevator without any acknowledgment, leaves. Kirk glances, perplexed, at McCoy. McCoy, equally perplexed, shrugs.

McCOY
Never look a gift Vulcan in the ears, Jim.

152 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (S) 152

traveling past the stars, sub-warp. OVER this:

KIRK (V.O.)
(buoyant)
Captain's Log. Stardate 7413.4. Thanks to Mr. Spock's timely arrival -- and assistance...

153 INT. ENGINEERING - SPOCK AND SCOTT 153

Scott making an intermix chamber reading with a hand-held timer-temperature device which emits SIGNALS while Spock now in regulation uniform and hair trim, makes adjustments in the circuitry of a panel complex. During the following, they will react as if they've solved the engine problem.

KIRK (V.O.)
(continues)
... we have the engines rebalanced into full warp capacity. Repair time less than three hours...

154 INT. BRIDGE - ALL BRIDGE CREW EXCEPT SPOCK 154

Sulu at the helm, accelerating; just a touch of tenseness in crew as they move toward the speed which earlier threw them into the "wormhole" effect.

KIRK (V.O.)
(continues)
... which means we will now be able to intercept Intruder while still more than a day from Earth.

155 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 155

Stars accelerating as Sulu calls off:

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

155 CONTINUED: 155

SULU
Warp point eight... point nine...

The viewer shows the QUANTUM LEAP into warp drive. The stars ahead shift, streak and congeal into WARP EFFECT MASS.

SULU
(continuing)
Warp one, sir.

The others wait, then show relief as:

SULU
(continuing)
Warp two, sir... warp three...

He continues to seven.

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
Engineering to Bridge... New intermix balance holding steady. She's not even straining!

156 INT. OFFICERS' LOUNGE (O) 156

Where, first, CAMERA SHOOTS THROUGH THE WINDOW, the myriad of stars, space, the whole magnificent vista. In the Lounge, empty but for them, are Kirk and McCoy -- obviously awaiting Spock, who ENTERS and presents himself cold and aloof as before:

SPOCK
Reporting as ordered, Captain.

KIRK
Sit down, please.

Spock remains standing, addresses Kirk:

SPOCK
Sir, I would appreciate Dr. McCoy absenting himself from this interview.

KIRK
I want him here.
(indicating)
Sit down!

For an instant, it looks like Spock will refuse. Then, he complies but sits formally, rigidly. He ignores McCoy totally.

(CONTINUED)

156 CONTINUED: 156

KIRK
(continuing)
You've reported that you felt strong thought emanations. A group of minds from a space vessel? Could you make out any plan, anything to do at all with Earth?

SPOCK
(still formally)
Negative, Captain. I could sense only what seemed an almost omniscient pattern of perfect logic. I can explain nothing more; I understood nothing more.

Kirk is clearly disappointed -- and a bit uncomfortable about what he must ask next. He exchanges a glance with McCoy, then:

KIRK
Also -- there was nothing in your report about <u>why</u> you're here.

SPOCK
That inquiry invades my personal life, Captain.

McCOY
Spock, we've already guessed why you're here...

KIRK
I inquired about you -- learned you were studying with the Masters...

Although Spock has been almost infuriatingly emotionless, his expression shifts slightly. McCoy indicates this:

McCOY
That flicker of emotion confirms our guess. You failed.

SPOCK
(facing McCoy for the first time)
Your deductions do you credit, Doctor... if your purile curiosity does not.

McCOY
(not in amusement)
And now, <u>anger</u>, Spock?

(CONTINUED)

156 CONTINUED: (2) 156

Spock looks straight ahead -- his face instantly composed to almost total blankness.

SPOCK
(beat; nods)
I still contain fragments of my human half.

KIRK
And whatever you sensed out here...

SPOCK
... is my only hope of accomplishing what the Masters could not.

McCOY
If you achieve perfect logic, Spock, you'll pay a price. It's given your planet ten thousand years of peace, but no poetry's been written since then, no music...

Spock has come to his feet fast -- but Kirk is on his feet too, confronting him. During which:

KIRK
Let it drop, Bones.
(to Spock)
You are my Science Officer -- I'll expect an immediate report on anything further you learn or sense from here on.

SPOCK
I have accepted service here as a Starfleet officer... sir.

KIRK
(nods)
I know this has been painful, Spock. For me too. Thank you.

Spock EXITS. Kirk and McCoy exchange a troubled look, then EXIT too as CAMERA CENTERS AGAIN ON OBSERVATION WINDOW, the view of space there.

157 thru 159 OMITTED 157 thru 159

159A INT. BRIDGE - CLOSE ON CHEKOV'S HAND 159A

pushing red alert. The ALERT SOUNDS; the red lights begin FLASHING.

CHEKOV'S VOICE
Red alert! Red alert!

160 BRIDGE ANGLE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER 160

All regulars in position (different uniform), extra CREW hurrying in from elevators to man the remainder of the console positions. Decker is making a bridge circuit.

KIRK
Full mag on viewer!

Sulu hits a control -- viewer seems to ZOOM AHEAD and in the distance we SEE a point of light which grows into the LUMINESCENT CLOUD. The same as seen by the Klingons and Starfleet's Epsilon Nine station. Mysterious, beautiful, and menacing.

KIRK
(continuing)
Linguacode?

UHURA
Continuing friendship messages on all frequencies, sir.

CHEKOV
All decks and divisions confirm status red.

SPOCK
(flat, impassive)
We are being scanned, Captain.

161 ANOTHER ANGLE - ACROSS KIRK (AND DECKER) TO SPOCK 161

as Kirk whirls toward Spock's station, calls out:

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

161 CONTINUED: 161

KIRK
Do not return scan, Mr. Spock! It may be misinterpreted as hostility!

SPOCK
Intruder scans emanate from the exact cloud center. Energy of a type and magnitude entirely unknown to me.

UHURA
(after a moment)
No response to friendship messages, Captain.

CHEKOV
Shall I go to battle stations, sir?

KIRK
Negative; we'll take no provocative action.

Decker has reacted sharply, disapprovingly, to this:

DECKER
Recommend defensive posture, Captain: screens and shields.

KIRK
That could also be misinterpreted as hostile, Mr. Decker.-.
(to Spock)
Cloud composition, Mr. Spock?

DECKER
Captain, we know they have incredibly powerful weapons. We should be taking every possible precaution --

SPOCK
Preliminary estimate: factor twelve energy field emanating from --
(a beat)
-- an object at the heart of the cloud.

SULU
(in disbelief)
-- factor twelve?!

KIRK
I will not provoke an attack, Mr. Decker...!

(CONTINUED)

161 CONTINUED: (2) 161

DECKER
In that case, sir, recommend we turn away -- until communications are established.

KIRK
And if they're not, Mr. Decker? What do you recommend then? Wait for this to get to Earth...
(to Ilia)
Time to Cloud boundary?

ILIA
Estimated five minutes.

KIRK
Lieutenant Ilia, lay in a conic section flight path to the cloud center; bring us parallel to whatever is in there.

162 FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 162

The Cloud now so large it DOMINATES THE ENTIRE VIEWER. Sulu hits a button, reducing magnification. Immediately, the Cloud diminishes in size -- but almost instantly begins GROWING AGAIN. Decker's annoyance (with Kirk) suddenly seems to dissipate as his total attention is diverted to the Cloud. He peers at it, fascinated.

McCOY
How big is that thing...?!

DECKER
Millions of miles -- billions!

Just then another ALARM KLAXON SOUNDS, and:

COMPUTER VOICE
Incoming fire. Ahead, zero mark zero.
Incoming fire. Ahead, zero, mark, zero.

McCoy races from the bridge.

163 FULL ON THE MAIN VIEWER (O) 163

showing a WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT streaking from the Cloud!

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

163 CONTINUED: 163

KIRK (O.S.)
Forcefields now...!
Deflectors up full!

SULU (O.S.)
Commencing evasive maneuvers...!

Bridge begins to tilt.

164 REVERSE ANGLE 164

CHEKOV
Forcefields and deflectors up full, Captain!

165 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (S) 165

The WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT speeds toward the Enterprise, which veers sharply away now -- but WHIPLASH FOLLOWS!

166 INT. BRIDGE AND VIEWER (O) 166

with the WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT on the main viewer, closer and closer -- heading straight-on for the Starship. From the bridge a CACOPHONY OF VOICES AND SOUNDS, but all organized and disciplined (APPENDIX E), with the BRIDGE LIGHTING DIMMING and then as though traveling the last short distance (actually several million miles) in the wink of an eye -- the WHIPLASH OF ENERGY STRIKES. The bridge lights go out.

In the sudden darkness, the main viewer is all at once a frantic, furious, pattern of GREEN-WHITE FLARING ENERGY, accompanied by an EXPLOSIVE SHRILLING SOUND. It seems to cling to the forcefields, the incredible energy forming a blue-white outline of electrical energy on the forcefield barriers.

167 FAVORING CHEKOV'S STATION (O) 167

as a sheet of GREEN WHIPLASH ENERGY bursts from Chekov's console, instantly becomes FLAME that engulfs Chekov. Automatic fire control nozzles SPURT FOAM over him as he falls twisting and groaning in pain.

168 INT. CORRIDOR 168

FIRE spilling from a room whose doors burst open, INJURED CREWMEN stumbling into the corridor. Fire-fighting FOAM spurts from automatic nozzles.

169 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE UNDER ATTACK (S) 169

The SHEET OF WRITHING-GREEN ENERGY enveloping the entire vessel, outlining it starkly. (And outlining, too, the forcefield screens and deflectors -- battering at them, seeking some gap through which to penetrate).

170 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 170

The bridge still darkened, and on the viewer the WHIPLASH ENERGY splattering the entire viewing screen with GREEN ENERGY BRILLIANCE, forcing all to shield their eyes against the impossible glare.

171 INT. SICKBAY 171

The lights here are on, but continually dimming -- as McCoy and some Medical Techs treat incoming injuries. (McCoy AD LIBBING: "Put the Chief over here... those two in the burn section," etc. etc...

172 INT. ENGINEERING 172

A smoking panel BURSTS INTO A SHOWER OF SPARKS AND FLAME, spewing over and past Scott and his crew.

SCOTT
Bypass...! Alternate integrators!

173 INT. BRIDGE AND VIEWER (O) 173

as, first, on the viewer, the WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT EFFECT clings another moment then begins FADING. And then it is gone. The bridge lights go on again. Elevator doors open. Doctor Chapel and Medical Corpsmen cross immediately to the injured Chekov.

SULU
The new screens held...!

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
Engineering to bridge; we cannot hold full power on forcefield screens; power systems are starting to overload!

ILIA
Cloud boundary in two minutes, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

173 CONTINUED: 173

Meanwhile, Chapel and Corpsmen take over from Decker and Uhura who are assisting Chekov. Immediately, Decker races across the bridge, CAMERA WITH him TO where he begins assisting Kirk. Uhura returns to her own console.

174 CLOSE ON VIEWER (O) 174

The energy brilliance gone now, we can SEE the CLOUD is very close -- the closest we have seen it yet, and the Aurora effect is spectacular: a vast, dense blanket of SPARKING, FLARING COLOR.

175 ANGLE ON SPOCK 175

whirling abruptly in his chair, addressing Kirk:

SPOCK
Captain, the Intruder has been attempting to communicate! Now placing their transmission on the speaker...

Immediately, from the SPEAKER we HEAR A SHRILL, INCREDIBLY, FAST BEEP.

SPOCK
(continuing)
... it is on a frequency of more than one million megahertz: at ultra-high speed, the entire message in a millisecond.

176 CLOSER ON SPOCK'S STATION 176

so we can SEE in more detail Spock's monitor -- various oscillating waves, and HEAR more of the SHRILL BEEPS as Spock manipulates his equipment, and continues:

SPOCK
I suspect our transmission may have been too slow for them to read. I am programming the computer to send a friendship message at their transmission speed.

RODDENBERRY.COM

177 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE AND THE CLOUD (S) 177

The Cloud ever closer to the ship now, which is a mere dot in space compared to the immensity of the energy-seething, continuous color-exploding Cloud. And then, suddenly, from the Cloud -- ANOTHER WHIP-LASH ENERGY BOLT. Bearing down upon the Enterprise.

178 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWER (O) 178

where the oncoming WHIPLASH BOLT is SEEN emerging from the Cloud. In the b.g., ALARM KLAXONS ARE SOUNDING, alert lights flashing, etc.

SULU
Here it comes...!

COMPUTER VOICE
Incoming fire. Ahead, zero, mark, zero, point two. Incoming fire. Ahead, zero, mark zero...

KIRK
(into intercom)
Engineering... divert all auxiliary power to forcefields and deflectors.

179 INT. ENGINEERING 179

Much frenetic activity here, previous damage being repaired, the main shaft GLOWING BLUE, ENGINES THROB-BING AT FULL POWER, and a harassed Scott at the intercom:

SCOTT
Captain, we have lost eight percent of our deflector power! Forcefields are now below thirty percent effective...! We cannot withstand another attack, sir...!

180 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING SPOCK AND DECKER 180

as Kirk hears this, turns to Spock:

KIRK
Progress, Mr. Spock...?!

Decker replies for Spock, who is feverishly engaged programming the computer:

(CONTINUED)

180 CONTINUED: 180

DECKER
(grim)
The computer won't select a compatible ultra-high speed...!

181 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE AND THE CLOUD (S) 181

The WHIPLASH BOLT streaking toward the ship.

182 INT. BRIDGE 182

KIRK
(desperately)
Mr. Spock...!

ILIA
Impact in fifteen seconds...
fourteen...
thirteen...
twelve...
eleven...

Spock -- Decker assisting -- works frantically. Spock is clearly dissatisfied, shakes his head tightly.

SPOCK
Captain, the computer will not confirm or deny frequency compatibility!

ILIA'S VOICE
... ten...
... nine...
... eight...
... seven...
... six...

KIRK
Transmit anyway, Mr. Spock! Now...!

183 CLOSER ON SPOCK'S STATION 183

as Decker leans over and hits the "Transmit" button, and we HEAR the SHRILL BEEP SOUND (lasting but a fraction of a second), and:

DECKER
Transmitting...!

ILIA'S VOICE
... five...
... four...

184 ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER (O) 184

where the WHIPLASH BOLT is now BRILLIANT, and Ilia continues counting O.S.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

184 CONTINUED: 184

ILIA (O.S.)
... three...
... two...
... one...

And at that instant, we HEAR another SHRILL HIGH SPEED BEEP (response from V'ger) -- the WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT WHICH IS JUST ABOUT AT THE ENTERPRISE, VANISHES. In the blink of an eye, the entire EFFECT IS GONE.

ILIA (O.S.)
(continuing; the word trailing off)
... Mark...

185 REACTIONS 185

relief, incredulity. Dr. Chapel, administering to Chekov, peers at the O.S. viewer dubiously; and Chekov, injured as he is, realizes they've been spared. Only Spock remains expressionless, and after another moment when it is apparent the attack has indeed broken off:

SPOCK
(quiet, level)
It appears that our friendship message has been received and understood, Captain.

186 EXT. SPACE - THE CLOUD AND THE ENTERPRISE (S) 186

The Enterprise very close now to the Cloud's outer boundary, and moving closer.

187 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWER (O) 187

The Cloud DOMINATING THE VIEWER, the "Borealis" EFFECT frighteningly prominent: the spectacular COLOR BURSTS erupting, subsiding, erupting. All watch the approaching Cloud tensely. (NOTE: McCoy, Chekov and Chapel are now absent.)

Decker seems more fascinated than the others, but as though prepared to face whatever confronts them; and Spock is busy at his station, grim, apparently frustrated.

188 CLOSE ON VIEWER (O) 188

The outer Cloud edges now clearly discernible; filmy wisps of ERUPTING COLORS, floating angrily (and beautifully) toward the viewer screen. Another moment with most eyes fixed on the oncoming Cloud: each crewman lost in his own secret thoughts. A moment of mystery, danger. Now the Cloud edges are more substantive, fiery, the "Borealis Effect" BRIGHTER and BRIGHTER.

ILIA
Twenty seconds.

The Cloud is ever CLOSER.

189 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE ENTERING THE CLOUD (S) 189

The Starship a tiny white speck against the unimaginable vastness of the Cloud. It noses slowly in now, saucer quickly enveloped, then the domed bridge section, the dorsal edge, the engine nacelles. And then it is swallowed up entirely.

190 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWER (O) 190

as the CLOUD OBSCURES all now. Everyone gazes at the viewer, almost mesmerized.

SULU
Helm control and power systems are normal, Captain.

SPOCK
My instruments indicate increasingly severe electromagnetic disturbances; the highest readings I have ever encountered.

191 ANGLE ON SULU (MUSIC THEME UP SLOWLY) 191

Sulu peering at the Main Viewer (O.S.); Kirk, Decker and Ilia with their backs to the viewer. Sulu's eyes are wide with incredulity:

SULU
Captain...!

192 OTHER REACTIONS - SPOCK AND UHURA 192

also peering at the O.S. viewer in disbelief. Kirk and Decker face the viewer. And their expressions are equally incredulous. Ilia also is aware of the viewer.

RODDENBERRY.COM

193 WHAT THEY SEE ON THE VIEWER - V'GER (MUSIC THEME UP (O) 193

as the final flickerings of the "Borealis Effect" flare thinly away to reveal, in the "eye of the hurricane" -- an Object which the entire bridge crew gazes at in stunned silence.

As the Enterprise closes, we SEE it with more detail: an Object at once exotically beautiful and frighteningly alien. Its sides covered with glowing material.

194 thru 197 VARIOUS ANGLES ON THE BRIDGE CREW AND THE VIEWER (O) 194 thru 197

The Object GROWING RAPIDLY IN SIZE as the Enterprise continues moving toward it. Everyone watches, awed; even Spock, from whom we discern an involuntary, impressed reaction.

SPOCK
Dimensions, Captain... Seventy-eight kilometers in breadth at center line.

SULU
Seventy-eight kilometers...?! Six times the size of Manhattan Island!

All digest the dimensions, as:

198 ANGLE ON THE BRIDGE ELEVATOR DOORS 198

opening to admit McCoy and Chekov, whose face and hands are taut with plastiskin applications. Seeing the Object on the viewer (O.S. at this ANGLE), Chekov's eyes open wide with astonishment. He crosses quickly to his weapons-defense station, his eyes on the viewer. McCoy, eyes also fixed on the sight, moves to Kirk's side, where Decker stands transfixed.

DECKER
(quiet, almost elated)
I knew it would be something like this...!

UHURA
There must be a crew of thousands...! Hundreds of thousands...!

McCOY
Or just a few -- ten miles tall.

KIRK
Mr. Spock: evaluation...?

199 ACROSS KIRK TO SPOCK 199

who is gazing at the O.S. viewer, almost entranced, as though trying to peer inside it. (This will be the first time we've seen Spock displaying a definite reaction, almost an emotion.) So engrossed is Spock, he appears not to have heard Kirk, who AD LIBS a sharp "Mr. Spock...!" Spock looks blankly at Kirk an instant, then at the viewer again.

SPOCK
I am unable to evaluate at present time, Captain; the computers contain no information concerning this Object...

KIRK
Any further 'impressions,' Mr. Spock?

SPOCK
They are stronger, Captain, but no more decipherable.
(to viewer, reflectively)
It remains a totally unknown entity.

200 ANOTHER ANGLE - KIRK AND McCOY 200

exchanging significant glances, McCoy facing the viewer again:

McCOY
Not to the Klingons, or Epsilon Nine, or any other poor devils unfortunate enough to cross its path...
(to Kirk, dryly)
... Which now, includes us.

201 FAVORING DECKER AND THE VIEWER (O) 201

as he steps closer to the viewer, fascinated, watching the Object whose image has lengthened so that now front and rear extend off the viewing screen. As Sulu hits a button reducing magnification, the image (of V'ger) shrinks so we SEE it in its entirety again, Decker replies to McCoy:

DECKER
Yes, but we're the first to have ever seen it...!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

201 CONTINUED: 201

DECKER (CONT'D)
(whirls to Spock)
Mr. Spock, can't you make any faster progress on their code...?!

SPOCK
That is an illogical question, Mr. Decker.

202 REVERSE ANGLE 202

KIRK
Commander Uhura, transmit the image of the Alien to Starfleet. Inform them we are attempting to establish --

UHURA
(interrupting)
Captain, I'm unable to make contact with Starfleet Relay. Our transmissions out of the Cloud are being reflected back... !

ILIA
We are now parallel with the object. Distance: seventy-nine thousand kilometers...

203 CLOSE ON KIRK 203

thinking, deciding the next move:

KIRK
Mr. Sulu, take us in closer: Make a pass at 50 kilometers for surface readings and then bring us back out to one thousand.

McCOY
(protesting)
Fifty kilometers! Jim, that's almost on top of him!

KIRK
(as Sulu commences maneuver)
He won't attack; he already knows our weapons pose him no threat. So let's see what he will do.

RODDENBERRY.COM

204 THE ALIEN SHIP (V'GER) (S) 204

The first EXTERIOR SHOT, the giant vessel so huge the Enterprise is but a tiny white speck as it approaches it. The Enterprise moves in closer, then turns parallel with one end of the vessel.

205 CLOSER ANGLE (S) 205

As Enterprise flies along the length of the object, we are provided fascinating views of its surface... tendrils of energy, eerie fluorescent vapors, ominous crevices and surfaces of power units. As Enterprise comes opposite the front it pulls away to a parallel course one thousand kilometers from the Alien and holds there.

206 INT. BRIDGE - VIEWER (O) 206

The Alien on the viewing screen.

ILIA
One thousand kilometers.

Ilia's voice is blotted out by a DEAFENING, SHRILLING SOUND, accompanied by a multi-hued point of LIGHT which EXPLODES INTO BLINDING INTENSITY, obscuring everything for an instant.

And, at the same time, in the background:

COMPUTER VOICE
Intruder alert...! Intruder alert...!

Continues.

207 ANOTHER ANGLE - FAVORING UHURA 207

blinding, eyes adjusting to the fading light, peering incredulously O.S.

UHURA
(quiet, alarmed)
Captain Kirk...!

And Kirk and the others turn to see what Uhura is peering at:

RODDENBERRY.COM

208 THE PLASMA ENERGY PROBE (O) 208

A large "entity," 8 feet tall and frightening, resembling a blob of raw energy, consisting of shifting patterns and colors of deep, ugly hues of upper spectrum violet. In its very center is an "eye" (an almost pearl-like object), which is immediately trained first on Ilia, then Sulu, then Kirk -- every crewman. It is "examining," and moves with lightning speed from station to station: The viewer, computer, consoles, etc. It is everywhere, and looking very much alive. Each time it ingests information it emits a little HISS sounding like "Tschaa...!" And just a moment later:

209 THE ELEVATOR DOORS (O) 209

snapping open, and TWO SECURITY MEN bursting onto the bridge, phasers drawn and levelled at the probe. Chekov shouts warningly at the men:

CHEKOV
No weapons...!

But Chekov is much too late: with blurring speed, the "eye" is trained on the men, and the Probe emits a SMALL WHIPLASH ENERGY BOLT, striking both Security Men, their SCREAMS AUDIBLE but a split-instant -- as their bodies become PILLARS OF SEARING FLAME. Almost disdainfully, the "eye" turns away, and the Probe resumes its examination, the CAMERA HOLDING on:

210 THE SECURITY MEN - CLOSER (O) 210

The blackened shapes inside the FLAMES unrecognizable now as human bodies -- the skeletal shapes already POWDERING, sifting down to a SMALL PILE OF SMOKING DUST. Chekov, like the others, horrified, flips a switch, and the computer-voice ("Intruder alert") goes OFF, at the same time Chekov speaks into his intercom:

CHEKOV
(controlled calm)
Security... do not -- repeat do not -- interfere with Intruders...

KIRK
(into intercom, voice amplified)
This is the Captain. All personnel will avoid contact with -- and are to make no hostile gestures toward -- Alien Intruders!

Kirk's voice OVERLAPS TO:

211 INT. ENGINEERING 211

where Scott is listening glumly to Kirk's amplified voice and gazing up at:

212 ANOTHER PLASMA ENERGY PROBE (O) 212

lithering about the Engineering complex, the "eye" examining all vital equipment, emitting constant "Tschaa...! Tschaa...! Tschatt...!" SOUNDS. The Probe moves about, scanning; the Engineering personnel peering apprehensively at it.

213 INT. SICKBAY (O) 213

Another PROBE here, with Chapel -- in the midst of tending PATIENTS -- stopping to watch anxiously. The Probe is very efficient, scans everything: "Tschaa...! Tschaa...!"

214 INT. BRIDGE (INCLUDING VIEWER) (O) 214

The image of V'ger huge and ominous on the viewing screen; and Uhura shivering with repugnance as the Probe skitters about near her station. It moves on to Spock, who seems to actually ignore it as he rapidly and determinedly punches in equations on his console, computes, punches. As soon as the Probe has left her area, Uhura turns to Kirk:

UHURA
(quiet, terse)
Only the four reported throughout the whole ship, Captain: Engineering, Sickbay, Crews Quarters -- and here.

215 ANOTHER ANGLE - ILIA (O) 215

as the Probe dances toward her console, now hovers over it. Decker moves to step to Ilia, but Kirk gestures him back. The Probe moves on. Kirk glances at Spock:

KIRK
(quiet, terse)
Evaluation, Mr. Spock?

216 ANGLE ON SPOCK (O) 216

quickly completing another set of equations on the console.

(CONTINUED)

216 CONTINUED: 216

Before replying he glances at the Probe, as though wondering if what he is about to say might offend it:

SPOCK
It is a Probe, Captain. I believe it to be raw plasma energy, somehow imbued with neutreno probing capability, and ingeniously bonded to an electro-magnetic charge...

Spock pauses, peers at the Probe which is now hovering near Chekov. He sits frozen, fists clenched, jaw tight, fearful of the slightest move.

SPOCK
(continuing)
I have located the Probe's frequency...
(another glance at Probe; then quietly)
... Main viewer, patch into Science Station...

217 CLOSER ON THE MAIN VIEWER (O) 217

as the image of V'ger is replaced now by a fuzzy, pulsating set of images which quickly come INTO FOCUS as mathematical equations: rows of numbers racing across the viewer screen with computer speed, line after line, filling the entire viewer, then dissolving, instantly replaced with other, different numbers.

SPOCK
What you are seeing is information being sent back to the mother ship.

KIRK
(astonished)
A binary system communication...!

SPOCK
The symbols represent a profusion of data. Everything the Probe has monitored thus far.

218 ANGLE ON ILIA (O) 218

as the Probe returns to her console and reaches out a tendril to further examine the equipment. Ilia gasps as the tendril, seemingly inadvertently, makes contact with her hand.

219 ANOTHER ANGLE ON THE VIEWER (O) 219

with the numbers now all at once flashing off, replaced by the ANATOMICAL DIAGRAM of a woman. Highly complicated and detailed, but clearly with a bald head. In and around this diagram (or outline) various numbers flash, and a strobe-like area of light pulsates from one section of the diagrammed body to another, to another, and another.

KIRK
(of the diagram)
Ilia...!

McCOY
(amazed)
Every function and component of her body is being examined.

SPOCK
And being translated into an electro-mechanical design program...!

This continues another moment, sections of the body (heart, lungs, stomach) being scanned, and MAGNIFIED as those details (nerve-endings, veins, etc.) are examined microscopically.

220 CLOSER ON ILIA (O) 220

as the Probe continues hovering over her: "Tschaa...! Tschaa...! Tschaa...!" -- and then, suddenly, it DISSOLVES IN A BLINDING FLASH OF WHITE, obscuring Ilia. An instant later the FLASH IS GONE -- and so is Ilia!

CHEKOV'S VOICE
They've beamed her over there...!

221 ANGLE ON UHURA 221

staring, incredulously, O.S. (at Navigator's station), and reporting:

UHURA
(stunned)
Engineering, Sickbay and Crews' Quarters report Probes have gone ... no damage, no casualties.

222 ACROSS THE NAVIGATOR'S STATION TO KIRK AND DECKER 222

helpless, shocked, gazing at the place Ilia was -- but which is now empty.

223 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE - AND V'GER (S) 223

SHOWING, first, the metallic colossus -- streaking through space. This is our first EXTERIOR VIEW of the machine, and it seems to nearly fill the sky. (As sequence progresses the CAMERA WILL SWING FROM V'ger, ACROSS SPACE TO: The Enterprise, dot-sized, compared to the giant; then PULL BACK TO SHOW both ships, Enterprise paralleling V'ger. OVER this:

KIRK (V.O.)
Captain's Log. Stardate 7413.9. For 12 hours now we have flown parallel with the Alien, keeping pace with him toward Earth: 16.8 hours away. He refuses to respond to our queries, so we have no hint of Lieutenant Ilia's fate. More important, we have no inkling of his intent concerning Earth.

224 INT. ENGINEERING 224

with Scott and his dishevelled, sweaty crew laboring. OVER this, Kirk continues:

KIRK (V.O.)
(dryly)
The 'respite' has enabled us to shut down our main engines, affording Chief Engineer Scott the opportunity to effect vital repairs...

225 INT. SICK BAY 225

where Chapel and Med Techs are busy with patients -- some abed, others being examined, etc. Kirk's VOICE continues OVER:

KIRK (V.O.)
... and has also enabled our medical facilities to catch up to casualties...

226 INT. REC DECK (O) 226

with CREWMEN relaxing (desperately attempting to); engaged in holographic games, reading, perusing small, personal viewers.

(CONTINUED)

226 CONTINUED: 226

But the sense of anxiety, tension pervades, and now and then they will glance through the picture window where, just barely discernible, are the inner edges of V'ger's cloud: the angry, beautiful colors like some alien Northern Lights flickering on the far distant horizon. Kirk's VOICE continues:

KIRK (V.O.)
... the crew is on general stand-down; and all operations on total stand-down, on automatic, computer-controlled.

227 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS (INCLUDING HIS PERSONAL VIEWER) (O) 227

Kirk at his desk, just now completing the log entry, slumping wearily -- a moment where we SEE his fatigue and tension -- and then AD LIBBING a quiet call: "Viewer on; patch into Main Viewer."

Immediately, on the personal viewer, the image of V'ger. Kirk peers at it in perplexion. Just then an INTERCOM WHISTLE SIGNAL:

SPOCK'S INTERCOM VOICE
Captain Kirk...

KIRK
Kirk here.

And Kirk touches another button, and on the personal viewer now is Spock's image -- at his bridge station.

SPOCK'S INTERCOM VOICE
(continuing; his image on viewer)
Captain, I have decoded the alien's transmissions.

228 INT. BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE (O) 228

The entire bridge is darkened but for narrow lights shining from the ceiling on each station, heightening the empty effect. The only personnel here are Decker, in the Center Seat -- and, of course, Spock, just now speaking to Kirk on the intercom. Decker, who had been gazing broodily at the viewer, at V'ger, hearing Spock's words, now has swung his chair around to peer incredulously at him.

KIRK'S INTERCOM VOICE
(to Spock)
On my way...!

229 PAST SPOCK TO DECKER 229

As Spock flips off the intercom, Decker crosses over to him, very interested. We HEAR the now familiar shrill BEEP of one of V'ger's high speed transmissions -- Spock replays the SOUND SLOWER -- SLOWER -- and then Spock indicates his console:

230 SPOCK'S CONSOLE - HIS MONITOR 230

Across the small monitor viewer we SEE complex groups of numbers in rapid displays.

231 SPOCK AND DECKER 231

as Uhura completes a tie-up between communication and science consoles. Spock speaks to Decker:

SPOCK
Their transmission language -- essentially, four interrelating binary combinations using digit eight as the base number --

UHURA
Hailing frequencies are now patched through your station, Mr. Spock.

232 ANGLE INCLUDING ELEVATOR DOORS 232

as Kirk enters, strides to join Spock and Decker at the science console. Uhura has gone back to her communications console, stands by there. Spock indicates the numerical displays on his monitor.

SPOCK
Their previous messages, Captain --
-- repeated requests that we identify ourselves and state our intentions. Finally...
(indicates monitor screen going blank)
... having received no reply, they fired upon us. We then became aware of their ultra-high speed messages -- we sent linguacode at the same rate --
(indicates new displays on monitor)
-- they responded --
(hits control)
-- translated as follows --

(CONTINUED)

232 CONTINUED: 232

COMPUTER VOICE
V'ger to Enterprise -- state intentions -- identify place of origin. V'ger to Enterprise -- state intentions --

SPOCK
Computer, stand by.

KIRK
V'ger?

Spock indicates image on viewer. Kirk nods, turns back to Spock.

KIRK
(continuing)
I say again... a pleasure having you on board, Mister Spock.

SPOCK
It serves my interests too, Captain.
(turning to console)
We can now open communications if you wish. Computer is programmed at their ultra-high speed -- and will translate to us at our normal rate.

McCoy enters hurriedly, hears the end of Spock's announcement. His and all others' eyes are on Kirk now as he turns back to the computer panel.

KIRK
Computer on. Send the following: 'V'ger from Enterprise: Is your destination the third planet of the solar system directly ahead?' Transmit.

We HEAR the short, high BEEP of a message being transmitted, then a fast slightly different return BEEP.

COMPUTER VOICE
Translating: Enterprise from V'ger. Affirmative. My destination is the third planet.

KIRK
(relieved)
Communications open.
(toward computer)
Computer, send: 'What is the purpose of your journey to this destination?'

(CONTINUED)

232 CONTINUED: (2) 232

Console lights flash again; the BEEP and the return BEEP.

COMPUTER VOICE
Translating: planet described is the home of the Creator.

Astonished, disbelieving reactions from all present on the bridge.

KIRK
The 'Creator'?

McCOY
Recommend we do not discuss 'religion' with something like that, Jim.

KIRK
(to Spock)
An old legend of theirs? We had similar ones about 'God' being up there somewhere.

DECKER
(indicating main viewer)
Submit, sir, that life forms that advanced and powerful are not out chasing old superstitions.

KIRK
(half-joke)
Maybe they know something about Earth that we don't.

McCOY
Maybe there's very little we really know about anything.

KIRK
(eyes McCoy; nods)
Computer, send: 'Your last transmission not understood. Request more information on your interest in third planet.'

We HEAR the BEEP of a signal being sent but there is no reply this time. Kirk waits a moment, exchanging another glance with the others. Kirk turns back to the computer.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

232 CONTINUED: (3) 232

KIRK
(continuing)
Computer, send: 'Enterprise is representative of third planet described. Your destination is our place of origin...'

Kirk's words are never completed: the computer's lights are suddenly flashing wildly, rapidly, and there is an incredibly fast EXCHANGE OF HIGH-PITCHED BEEPS -- the computer obviously in unauthorized communication with V'ger.

KIRK
(continuing)
Computer off! You are violating program...!
(tries to manually shut it down)
They're running our ships' records! Starfleet strength, Earth defenses...

Spock moves in, his Vulcan strength easily brushing Kirk and Decker aside. Spock clasps his fists above his head, brings them down in a SHATTERING BLOW on the console. It splits open, FLARING, WISPS OF SMOKE. The dim bridge lights dim even more -- and then the Science Console shorts itself out -- and off.

233 ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 233

Decker's eye is caught by main viewer; he whirls, indicating:

DECKER
Captain...! They're attacking again!

From the giant alien, we SEE STRANGE, OPAQUE ENERGY PATTERNS STREAKING TOWARD US. Kirk vaults to the command chair, lunges for controls, as Decker calls into the intercom. An n.d. Bridge Crewperson vaults toward the weapons-defense console.

DECKER
(voice amplified)
General quarters...! Red alert... Red alert!

KIRK
Forcefields, full emergency --

Appropriate ALARM KLAXONS, and COMPUTER VOICES begin SOUNDING, and all this is lost in a SUDDEN SHRILLING SOUND (a constant, high-pitched tone). For a moment the energy patterns are prominent on the viewer -- and then the PATTERNS VANISH, and the SHRILL SOUND FADES -- and:

234 FAVOR THE VIEWER (O) 234

which shows V'ger GROWING RAPIDLY IN SIZE. The Enterprise is being pulled toward the big ship.

SPOCK
Captain, we have been seized by a form of tractor beam...!

KIRK
Decker, take the helm!
(into intercom)
Engineering... Scotty, they have a tractor beam on us! Warp us out of it!

235 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE BEING PULLED TOWARD V'GER (S) 235

The comparatively tiny starship trapped helplessly, pulled toward V'ger as though on a taut cable.

236 INT. BRIDGE 236

SHOWING Uhura, Chekov, Sulu and others arriving on the run, rushing to their stations.

237 INT. ENGINEERING - MAIN LEVEL - DOWN SHOT 237

ENGINE SOUNDS DEAFENING; Technicians reacting to the impending emergency, VOICES AD LIBBING: "Bypass integrators two-two-seven, two-two-eight...!" "Main engines coming on full...!" "This station has helm control, but minimal response...!"

Emergency support Engineering CREW are ENTERING ON THE RUN, assuming appropriate stations.

238 ANOTHER ANGLE - ENGINEERING - SCOTT 238

at his station, and beyond him the great power shaft is starting to GLOW BLUE; ENGINES SOUND EVEN LOUDER. Scott is speaking into the intercom, shouting over the din:

SCOTT
Engines approaching redline, Captain...!

KIRK'S INTERCOM VOICE
I want more power, Engineer! Break us out of this!

239 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE AND V'GER (S) 239

The speck-sized Enterprise moving unerringly toward the giant Alien, and then the frightening sight of a huge "maw" beginning to open at the end of V'ger toward which they're being drawn.

240 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWER (O) 240

showing the "maw" coming closer and closer -- and opening wider, wider, like a monstrous space creature about to "swallow" its tiny, helpless prey. And now we can clearly SEE inside the "maw" -- a DARK VOID at the immediate opening, but further in (miles inside), past the darkness, mysterious FLICKERING ENERGY FIELD PATTERNS CAN BE DIMLY SEEN.

241 ANOTHER ANGLE 241

Crew reacting to the "maw" ahead. McCoy enters on the run from an elevator, stands almost disbelieving what he sees on the O.S. viewer.

KIRK
All secondary power to main engines, Engineer. I want more!

SPOCK
(turning; interrupting)
Captain... my computations show we do not have the capability to break free.

KIRK
What?
(whirling to intercom)
Engineering, disengage! Reduce power, Mister Scott!

SCOTT'S INTERCOM VOICE
Bridge, our intercoolers are failing! Temperatures in critical range now --
(beat)
Captain, do you read?! Intercoolers cannot handle -- central core now six-six-niner-niner degrees -- six-seven-five-oh... Bridge, confirm! Are you reading that?!

242 INT. ENGINEERING 242

Scott and crew reducing power; a very concerned Chief Engineer is beginning to show relief as the POWER SCREAM of the intermix chamber begins to RECEDE.

243 INT. BRIDGE - VIEWER (O) 243

as they're drawn closer, now to the edge of the vast "maw."

(CONTINUED)

243 CONTINUED: 243

UHURA
It's 'swallowing' us...

DECKER
Vessels do not swallow vessels, Commander...

McCOY
(eyeing viewer)
Well... almost never.

KIRK
(hears McCoy's voice; turns)
Get medical observers monitoring all divisions, Doctor. Yank anyone who can't seem to handle this.

McCoy nods; starts for elevator, turns, speaks quietly.

McCOY
It might help if you made an all decks announcement, Jim.

KIRK
Fine, Bones...
(indicating toward viewer)
... and what the hell do you suggest I say to them?

McCoy sees Kirk's point, then EXITS.

244 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE AND V'GER - NEAR THE "MAW" (S) 244

The Enterprise being pulled into the "maw" now. It is a frightening sight -- the darkness inside extends for miles, made even more fearsome by the flickering of energy fields, shifting, glowing, erupting into gigantic displays.

245 INT. BRIDGE - VIEWER (O) 245

The "maw" now encompassing the entire viewing screen, and the interior ever clearer and more ominous ahead.

246 EXT. THE ENTERPRISE ENTERING V'GER (S) 246

Immediately, as the starship is pulled inside, the huge "maw" is closing again.

247 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 247

Sulu moving viewer image in a "reverse pan" thru the darkness, then CENTERING ON THE "MAW" as it closes behind the starship.

SULU
Reverse angle on viewer, sir...

Kirk looks up again at viewer -- he sees the last glimmer from outside as the "maw" closes completely.

248 MOVING AROUND BRIDGE 248

Crew reacting to same view of themselves and the Enterprise now enclosed in here. As CAMERA REACHES Spock, Kirk is moving next to the science station.

SPOCK
The tractor beam has been released, Captain.

KIRK
Then I think we can risk using our sensors, Mister Spock.
(attempting a joke)
V'ger shouldn't object. We seem to be on a rather intimate basis now.

Spock looks faintly puzzled; we can SEE he makes an attempt to understand -- but fails. He turns back to his console.

SPOCK
Beginning full sensor scans, Captain.

KIRK
We'll have a look around in here, Mister Decker. Engage navigational sensors.

DECKER
Recommend we first wait for V'ger's next move, sir.

KIRK
Mr. Decker, I damned well intend to know <u>where</u> we are, <u>what</u> it means!
(to Sulu)
Maneuvering thrusters, Mr. Sulu: ahead, one-third.

RODDENBERRY.COM

249 INT. V'GER ENTRANCE CHAMBER - ENTERPRISE (S) 249

moving forward within the darkened chamber, with a light now VISIBLE GLOWING on the upper left, revealing a wall that slants like a steep room -- the light reflecting on the lower right wall to indicate a diamond-shaped corridor.

The Enterprise moves through this void, tiny in the vastness, the ship's running lights merely specks of light, candles in the darkness.

Now Enterprise is closer to the glowing spot of light, which can now be DISCERNED as a translucent pool inside V'ger's wall surface, changing shape now and slipping away into the distance, and accelerating as it faintly delineates a tapering series of ramps, or ledges, all converging to a vanishing point, and forming strange, alien patterns and textures.

And then, in the distance, suddenly ahead of us we SEE tapering forms moving along the diamond corridor, and descending, resembling "teeth" -- slowly but steadily coming down as though to crush anything in the way.

250 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 250

All personnel peering at the awesome sight of this first chamber -- appropriate individual reactions -- and now alarm at the sight of the descending "teeth."

KIRK
All stop...!

Sulu moves the controls, the Enterprise slowly stops. The "teeth" present an impassible formidable barrier.

251 ANGLE TO INCLUDE SPOCK 251

From his first moment of sensor scanning, the Vulcan Science Officer has been almost raptly abosrbed in his readings -- at times seeming almost having to struggle to resist emotions of surprise and awe. Kirk has been aware of this -- now he has no choice but to interrupt.

KIRK
Analysis, Mister Spock.
(waits)
Mister Spock!

Spock looks up -- it's clear his mind was far away -- and again we can feel his struggle to maintain his Vulcan calm.

(CONTINUED)

251 CONTINUED: 251

SPOCK
V'ger, Captain, is not composed of matter as we understand that term... nor do our readings indicate any form of energy we can identify or measure.
(indicating toward viewer)
What you observe out there is not even explainable in terms of atoms, molecules, heat, light, kinetics, electromagnetics...

KIRK
(interrupting)
You're telling what it isn't. I need to know something of what it is!

Interrupted by:

COMPUTER VOICE
Intruder Alert...! Intruder Alert...!
(continues)

CHEKOV
Captain, my sensors indicate Intruder is in your quarters...!

Kirk is on his feet, already moving to leave.

KIRK
You have the conn, Mr. Decker...
(moving)
Mr. Chekov...

And Chekov rises to accompany Kirk out. They EXIT hurriedly.

252 INT. CORRIDOR NEAR KIRK'S QUARTERS 252

Two SECURITY MEN appearing on the run, just as the elevator doors snap open, and Kirk and Chekov appear, move toward Kirk's door.

CHEKOV
(to Security Men)
No weapons...

The doors open for Kirk; he enters, the others following.

RODDENBERRY.COM

253 INT. KIRK'S QUARTERS 253

apparently empty. Chekov locates the Intruder source, indicates. Kirk glances toward the O.S. shower, then starts toward it, gesturing the Security Men to remain behind.

254 THE DRESSING AND BATH AREA 254

Kirk entering, Chekov several steps behind -- and both reacting to a wholly unexpected sight faintly SEEN behind the translucent shower stall door: a NAKED FEMALE FORM.

A moment's uncertainty (and considerable discomfort), then Kirk strides to the shower stall door, slides it open. And now, truly, he is incredulous -- as is Chekov. They are looking at:

255 "ILIA" 255

Through the sonic mist we can SEE an indication she is unclothed, unadorned except for a small pearl-like button imbedded in her throat. (NOTE: "Ilia's" speech patterns will be slightly stilted at first, a definite shade removed from the real Ilia's naturalness. This will gradually improve, evolve to nearly normal.)

"Ilia" has examined Kirk in turn. Then she speaks to him:

"ILIA"
Excellent. The Kirk-unit responds to my presence here.

KIRK
(turns, orders)
Get McCoy -- on the double.

"ILIA"
I am an exact duplication of the Ilia-unit. You will assist me in my study of the nature and function of the carbon-based units here.

Kirk is nonplussed, then recovers, leans into the shower to touch a control (punches in a three-digit code). Immediately a HUMMING SOUND emits from the shower stall. Kirk closes the translucent door -- "Ilia" remaining there.

RODDENBERRY.COM

256 ACROSS KIRK TO THE SHOWER STALL 256

the HUMMING SOUND just now reaching a gentle crescendo -- through the translucent stall door we SEE COLORS ENVELOPING "ILIA'S" FORM. And then the SOUND STOPS; "Ilia," now attired in a leisure robe of Kirk's, steps from the shower stall, into the room.

KIRK
Where is Lieutenant Ilia?

"ILIA"
That unit no longer functions.

256A ANGLE ON THE DOOR - McCOY 256A

entering hurriedly, concerned.

McCOY
Jim, what's --

McCoy reacts at the sight of Ilia... then his trained eyes instantly tell him that something is awry. He unslings his tricorder, aims the sensor unit at "Ilia." His face reveals the results.

McCOY
(continuing)
Jim, this reading indicates a... a mechanism of some sort.

McCoy moves closer, scanning more -- AD LIBS "incredible!"

"ILIA"
(ignoring McCoy, to Kirk)
Enterprise was supplying information to V'ger. You will explain why carbon-based units interfered.

Kirk is slightly taken aback at this, but quickly:

KIRK
No, you explain something. What gave V'ger the right to seize control of Enterprise's records system?

"ILIA"
Kirk-unit, you will make no further efforts to acquire data. Your function is to provide it.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

256A CONTINUED: 256A

McCoy, who has been scanning "Ilia" with utter fascination, interrupts with:

McCOY
Jim, any chance you can argue this in sickbay? It might be wise if we examined this thing thoroughly.
(to "Ilia")
Mind coming with me?

And McCoy grasps "Ilia's" arm to escort her. But it is as though he has seized cast iron steel: immovable. McCoy is nearly thrown off balance merely by "Ilia" remaining stationary. She ignores McCoy, addresses Kirk:

"ILIA"
All carbon-based units will continue normal functioning. I will observe and record.

Kirk glances at McCoy, who is totally bemused: then Kirk responds quickly to "Ilia."

KIRK
The McCoy-unit's request is a normal function.

"ILIA"
(to McCoy)
You may proceed.

McCOY
(carefully)
Thank you.

They begin to EXIT.

257 CLOSE SHOT OF THE EXAMINING ROOM VIEWER 257

scanning a "body." PULL BACK TO SHOW McCoy, Chapel, Kirk, Chekov -- Decker, and Spock -- standing over "Ilia" who lies prone on the table, the physicians moving the scanner over her.

McCOY
The skin is synthetic, but ingeniously fabricated...
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

257 CONTINUED: 257

McCOY (CONT'D)
(indicating)
Micro-miniature heating elements, sensors, molecule-sized multi-processor chips... and I can't even begin to guess what this is --

CHAPEL
It looks to be an osmotic micro-pump...
(traces with finger on screen)
There's one at every fluid-network junction; every epidermal function is duplicated...
(traces)
... even to a form of eye moisture.

Decker has been watching all this, somewhat disconcerted -- as though unwilling to accept that the real Ilia has ceased to "function." He indicates the pearl-like device in her throat:

DECKER
This type of sensing device was in the probe that killed Jennings and Lang!
(tersely; to "Ilia")
The one that took Ilia.

CHEKOV
(reacting)
Yes! 'Tasha'...!

CHAPEL
'Tasha?'

CHEKOV
It made that sound: "Tschaa..."

"ILIA"
(making the sound exactly)
Tchhh-sha!

Everyone on her instantly -- Decker reacts with anger as his suspicions are confirmed. The "Ilia" probe merely nods.

"ILIA"
(continuing)
But this form, of course, facilitates my present function.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

257 CONTINUED: (2) 257

KIRK
Will!

It's a warning statement that pulls Decker out of his growing anger. But it has drawn the Tasha probe's attention to him and she eyes him as if faintly remembering something. Spock watches with growing interest. (NOTE: The "Ilia" duplicate will now be identified here as Tasha.)

TASHA
Deck... Decker.

SPOCK
(to Tasha)
Interesting. Not 'Decker-unit?'

Tasha continues peering at Decker with just a hint of a puzzled frown, a glimmer of distant recognition. It's the first time we've seen her expression anything but pleasantly bland.

TASHA
The Ilia-unit's thought patterns carried strong imprints of you.

Spock is listening and watching with a total fascination revealed in the slight rising of a quizzical eyebrow.

258 ANOTHER ANGLE 258

McCoy's examination now turns Tasha away from the others. Spock quickly catches Kirk's and Decker's attention, indicates an adjoining door -- they follow him out of the room.

259 INT. McCOY'S OFFICE 259

as Kirk, Spock and Decker enter, the door snapping shut -- and Spock touching the electronic lock to secure them. He faces the others:

SPOCK
Captain... I suggest that this 'Tasha' may be our key to V'ger.

DECKER
It's simply a probe, Mister Spock. A mindless, programmed mechanism.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

259 CONTINUED: 259

SPOCK
Indeed? And the memories it associated with you?
(turning to Kirk)
Which logically presents the question: How many of our navigator's memory patterns does it possess? Clearly, its designers are unacquainted with organic life... her body duplicates Ilia's anatomy in precise detail down to tear ducts, glands, perhaps even chemical secretions which trigger hunger, physical even emotional needs.

KIRK
(understanding)
They had a pattern to follow... they may have followed it exactly.

SPOCK
(nods)
... and beneath its layer of programming may exist every thought pattern of the original model, extending perhaps even to loyalty, friendship...

Both Spock and Kirk have turned to eye Decker. Decker flushes in anger, pointing toward the door.

DECKER
Captain... that thing killed Ilia!

Interrupted by a METAL RIPPING SOUND. They whirl to see:

260 MEDICAL OFFICE DOOR 260

with the METAL BUCKLING, TEARING -- and a single hand slicing the steel door like paper. It is Tasha, her face absolutely impassive, her whole manner incongruously benign. (Behind her, a startled McCoy, Chapel, and Chekov.) Tasha speaks flatly, blandly, almost pleasantly to Kirk.

TASHA
I have recorded sufficient functions here.

(CONTINUED)

260 CONTINUED: 260

KIRK
And there are... many, many more important ones, of course. However, I am a... command-unit, a control-unit regulating other units.
(indicating Decker)
With the Decker-unit, your analysis would proceed much more rapidly and efficiently.

Tasha seems about to object -- then her eyes hold on Decker and she hesitates. Then she nods. Decker looks at Kirk, and you can read his mind: I'm supposed to "operate" that...?!

261 TRAVELING WITH DECKER AND TASHA 261

as they move out of the office, begin walking down a corridor. A Security Team alertly watches them but Decker shakes his head, dismisses them. Then to Tasha:

DECKER
The name 'V'ger.' Is that your vessel? Or is V'ger one of the...

TASHA
(interrupting; indicating departing Security Team)
You will explain their function.

DECKER
(eyes her, then)
Don't you know? Think!

They get only one step further when Decker's arm is suddenly seized in a vice-like grip, his knees buckling as he groans in pain.

TASHA
You are malfunctioning, Decker-unit. Your program is to provide information.

Tasha releases Decker. He straightens to his feet, nursing a painfully-bruised arm, trying to hold anger in check. But now, Tasha's gaze wanders in the direction where they passed the Security Team.

DECKER
Their function... isn't in the Ilia-unit's memory patterns.

(CONTINUED)

261 CONTINUED: 261

She whirls back, stepping and reaching toward him.

DECKER
(continuing; quickly)
It is inefficient if I provide data you already possess.

Tasha stops -- then without a change of expression, Tasha turns and proceeds down the corridor. Decker follows.

262 INT. AIRLOCK AREA 262

SHOWING Spock and Kirk donning thruster suits, several CREWMEN assisting and Chekov supervising. Equipment is being checked, and in the b.g. we will be HEARING Crewmen AD LIBBING the checklist: "Thrusters...?" Kirk and Spock (voices filtered) will be replying, "Thruster pressure is: green..." "Transmitter control locked in 'on' position?" Kirk and Spock will each AD LIB "Locked..." Etc. etc. McCoy is facing Kirk, angry.

McCOY
What makes you think you'll even be tolerated out there?!
(slaps palms together)
You're less than insects. V'ger doesn't even consider us life forms.

KIRK
Bones, this thing is now less than eight hours from Earth orbit and we're trapped here in some small corner of it. We don't know who or what's aboard, what they want, they won't answer our signals... I need information! *

McCOY
(turns to Spock)
And you, Spock? What are you looking for?

Spock turns away, declining to answer.

McCOY
(continuing)
Happy hunting, Spock.

McCoy then squeezes Kirk's shoulder for good luck. Kirk heads into the airlock chamber, Spock follows... McCoy glances grimly at Chekov, and then both watch as the inner airlock door closes.

263 INT. V'GER - THE ENTERPRISE (S) 263

hovering in the gigantic chamber, whose walls seem to extend endlessly, the various EFFECTS prominent.

264 CLOSER ON THE ENTERPRISE - AT THE AIRLOCK (O) 264

as the hatch slides open, and a moment later Kirk's thruster suit emerges, followed by Spock's. Two tiny figures dwarfed by the huge white bulk of Enterprise. Both drop into the open now -- the faint GLOW of RED from thruster units as they move, controlled, away from Enterprise.

265 CLOSE ON SPOCK AND KIRK (O) 265

through their face plates, as both react to the awesome vista confronting them. Kirk studies all this analytically, but Spock seems to be profoundly affected, gazing off into the vastness -- for the moment totally overwhelmed, the presence of V'ger gripping him now far more strongly than ever before. Kirk notices this, peers at Spock, and their eyes meet, hold, and then Spock touches a control on his suit, and moves faster.

266 LONGER ANGLE - KIRK AND SPOCK (O) 266

CAMERA HOLDING as they continue away, their figures growing small as they head for the nearest inner wall in the distance.

267 INT. ENGINEERING 267

Decker there with Tasha. Scott is upset, fixing a suspicious eye on the Tasha probe wherever she goes. Then he finds her heading directly for him.

TASHA
You will explain why you are necessary here. What is your function?

Scott bristles, gets a warning look from Decker.

SCOTT
Why are you necessary here, lass? Can't your boss V'ger get around himself?

DECKER
(moving in)
Tasha...

(CONTINUED)

267 CONTINUED: 267

She stops him; then stands looking at Scott. Then:

TASHA
Scott-unit. Chief... Engineer.

DECKER
(waves Scott away)
Let it drop, Scotty. She's located her data on you.

Scott gives her a puzzled look; moves off. Decker stands watching Tasha as she surveys the engineering personnel at work. Then:

DECKER
(continuing)
Want a look at the Rec Deck?

TASHA
The recreation pursuits of these units is of no interest to...

Tasha bites off her last word, realizing she has responded with some knowledge of what "Rec Deck" means. Decker realizes it too; they exchange a look.

DECKER
It's only a few minutes.

TASHA
(nods)
Deck Seven.

He leads the way off. She hesitates, a frown appearing. Then, she follows.

268 thru 282 INT. V'GER - VARIOUS ANGLES AND POVS - KIRK AND SPOCK MANEUVERING WITHIN V'GER (O) 268 thru 282

moving now toward the strange shape of an inner V'ger wall. Ahead, crackling energy fields ERUPT -- and then, all at once, an ERUPTION at a place they have just passed. Both react, glance at each other, then back at the just-subsiding energy; had they been there a moment longer, both would have been destroyed.

Now, nearing the wall, they see GASEOUS FORMS, which -- as we WATCH -- become more and more solid, and then themselves ERUPT VIOLENTLY, the blast strong enough to push both men momentarily off their course.

Behind them, the Enterprise can no longer be seen. Kirk points ahead, to a complex of semi-solid shapes; Spock nods, both steer for it.

283 FAVORING SPOCK (O) 283

peering ahead, puzzling over their surroundings but apparently putting together some theory concerning all this. He is lost in this thought a moment, and then:

KIRK
Life form readings?

Spock does not immediately reply, still engrossed. Kirk AD LIBS impatiently, "Spock...!" Spock is jolted from his reverie, glances at his tricorder, replies:

SPOCK
Negative, Captain. Nor do I believe now that we are likely to find any.

284 ANOTHER ANGLE - GASEOUS CLOUD (O) 284

appearing unexpectedly, the outer fringes curling around both. Immediately they take evasive action, but more cloud seems to envelope them, thicker -- and suddenly the cloud is congealing! They are trapped, struggle to free themselves, but the material is becoming solid matter.

Kirk appears to be more enmeshed than Spock, is helpless.

KIRK
(gasping)
Your phaser, Spock! Use the phaser!

Spock pulls the phaser out, trains it on the swirling, congealing matter -- FIRES. For just an instant the matter parts, but almost as quickly it forms again. Spock adjusts the setting, FIRES again. And this time blows enough of a hole in the matter to form an aperture. He speeds out, pulling Kirk with him. They move a distance away, glance behind them: the cloud has congealed solidly again, and before their eyes becomes an energy field that ERUPTS in a BURST OF BRILLIANCE.

For a moment now, safe, they remain stationary, catching their breath, studying each other through the face-screens.

SPOCK
It would almost appear, Captain, that we are being tested.

KIRK
A game?

(CONTINUED)

284 CONTINUED: 284

SPOCK
(grim)
If so, a most deadly one.

Spock's words trail off as he peers into the near distance, at:

285 THE WALL (O) 285

now close enough to make out clearly the structure: tens of thousands of crystals. Gleaming in the dimness, pulsing with life. Spock glances at Kirk, and then without another word, touches his thruster control, sets off straight for the wall. Kirk is right with him and, again, ENERGY ERUPTS in their path -- but they veer around it, continue for the wall.

286 INT. REC DECK (O) 286

Decker and Tasha moving into the area, which is occupied by a few of the CREW who stir at the sight of Tasha. But it's clear they've been ordered to avoid interfering -- they move off. Only a few engage in recreation activities -- the general mood is nervous waiting.

287 CLOSER ON DECKER AND TASHA (O) 287

as he maneuvers her toward a lounge area, then sits, motioning for her to join him. Again, she frowns... then shakes her head. He watches her curiously.

DECKER
The... Ilia-unit and I sat here only a few days ago.

TASHA
The taking of the Ilia-unit was done by V'ger.

DECKER
(looks up at her)
In a way, I suppose we're all programmed... we all follow the instructions inside us.

He reaches up, takes her hand. As if stung, she pulls free with a force that almost lifts him out of the seat. Then, as if surprised at the violence of her own reaction, Tasha decides to sit. Decker takes her hand again; she lets it lie in his.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

287 CONTINUED: 287

He looks down at their joined hands, surprised at the feel of it.

DECKER
(continuing)
Your hand is... well, warm.

TASHA
I am an exact duplicate.

DECKER
I only wish you were. Then, you'd be Ilia, wouldn't you. She'd be alive. Or is it that ... you'd be alive.

TASHA
I function.

DECKER
Living things feel.

TASHA
(shakes head)
No, Decker. The purpose of a life form is to acquire knowledge throughout eternity.

DECKER
And that's V'ger's purpose?
(waits)
Why is V'ger seeking its Creator? Has V'ger found that knowledge isn't enough? Does it feel something missing?

288 INT. V'GER - SPOCK AND KIRK AT THE CRYSTAL WALL (O) 288

close enough now to clearly make out the wall composition: tens of thousands of tiny crystals. The darkness now brightened considerably by the sparkling, almost life-churning crystals. Spock is examining them with his tricorder.

SPOCK
Each individual crystal appears to contain immense energy... as though each is alive...
(glances at Kirk, indicates wall)
This entire wall is a single mass of living energy.

(CONTINUED)

288 CONTINUED: 288

Spock is peering in different directions, looking for something -- and seems to have found it, pointing downward, O.S., AD LIBBING, "Captain..."

289 WHAT SPOCK IS POINTING AT - THE "POWERFIELD LINE CONNECTION" (O) 289

A ten-foot wide "tube" or line, raw plasma energy surging through it; the line leads from the crystal wall, on into the vessel, extending endlessly.

Now Spock and Kirk FLOAT INTO THE SHOT, begin following the "connection," Spock studying his tricorder, then suddenly reacting, veering in toward the wall, again training the tricorder on the crystal. Kirk moves into inspect Spock's tricorder reading -- they exchange looks. Then Spock is again studying the wall, and through his face-screen an expression of ever increasing enlightenment and certainty is evident. Then:

SPOCK
Captain, there is a life form here.
(indicating around)
V'ger. This is not a vessel -- all of this is a single living entity. This is all V'ger.

KIRK
A living machine?

SPOCK
How does one define a 'machine,' Captain?
(indicates around)
In comparison to all this, we're quite simple protein mechanisms.

KIRK
(indicates crystals)
Its brain?

SPOCK
Negative. Information storage. But it must connect with its brain... its consciousness.

290 FAVORING SPOCK (O) 290

as, without another word, he moves toward the wall. Kirk reacts, calls after him:

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

290 CONTINUED: 290

KIRK
Spock...!

SPOCK
I must mind-meld with it, Captain.

291 CLOSE AT WALL (O) 291

MUSIC THEME RISING as Spock approaches (the wall). He is almost there, now stops to hover a moment, gazes at the wall which seems to be throbbing with energy, life. Spock removes his gauntlet, moves his hand just a few inches from the wall -- and even at this distance it is as though he can feel the incredible energy. Now Spock steels himself for the ordeal -- and firmly places his hand there.

It is as though a million volts SURGE THROUGH HIS WHOLE BODY. His face contorts in agony, his body SHUDDERS UNCONTROLLABLY.

292 AS KIRK SEES SPOCK (O) 292

Kirk reacting alarmed, steering his suit toward Spock, who is adhered to the wall in convulsive throbs. Just as Kirk reaches him, Spock's body suddenly goes limp, his hand falls away; he hovers directionlessly. His eyes are open, peering unseeingly, almost catatonically.

293 CLOSER ANGLE (O) 293

Kirk touches a control on Spock's suit, one on his own, and now begins moving away, pulling Spock with him, in the direction toward Enterprise.

294 INT. CORRIDOR - DECKER AND TASHA 294

Decker, Tasha nearby, at a corridor intercom, listening to:

UHURA'S INTERCOM VOICE
... They're coming back, sir.
Mr. Spock is injured.

Decker looks toward Tasha who hasn't moved her eyes from his face. He turns back to the intercom:

DECKER
Then Mr. Sulu will have to keep
the conn...

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

294 CONTINUED: 294

UHURA'S INTERCOM VOICE
Sir, we are now only two point one hours from Earth orbit... *

DECKER
(interrupting)
Follow my instructions, Commander Uhura! I am unavailable. Decker out!

He turns from the intercom, faces Tasha.

DECKER
(continuing)
Once again, Tasha... V'ger's interest in my planet.

TASHA
(nods)
I am V'ger's probe, Decker. I am not programmed to provide...

DECKER
(interrupting)
The Ilia memory patterns... what do they tell you to do?

She hesitates, confused. Decker reaches up, touches her face.

TASHA
V'ger is aware of everything...

DECKER
Is V'ger feeling this? Is V'ger telling you to stop me?
(touches her again)
What is the 'Creator'?

TASHA
(confused)
Decker... Decker...

DECKER
Ilia, help me! Help me understand V'ger.

295 EXT. SPACE - LUMINESCENT CLOUD (S) 295

rapidly dissipating, V'ger coming slowly INTO VIEW.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED: 295

KIRK (V.O.)
Stardate 7414.5. Contact with Starfleet, now transmitting to us a visual image of V'ger entering our solar system and beginning to decelerate... *

296 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 296

on which we SEE a closer image of V'ger within the solar system, luminescent power field now completely gone.

KIRK (V.O.)
(continuing)
... its luminescent power field dissipating as it moves toward Earth orbit. Spock is alive, recovering consciousness. Decker has not yet reported his progress with the Tasha probe.

297 INT. McCOY'S OFFICE 297

Kirk waiting as McCoy and Chapel come in from the adjoining sickbay room. McCoy motions Kirk to go in alone.

298 INT. SICKBAY - SPOCK 298

as Kirk enters, crosses to bedside where Spock lies conscious but weak. It's clear he is also tormented by the something in the enormous consciousness that entered his mind. He looks up at Kirk as if only now becoming aware of his presence here.

SPOCK
Barren... So majestic and yet... so barren.

KIRK
Spock?

SPOCK
Majestic. Knowledge beyond comprehension. All... more... than I had dreamed of becoming...

KIRK
V'ger, Spock. It is a living machine?

(CONTINUED)

298 CONTINUED: 298

SPOCK
(weakly nods)
And in it... I saw the trap... the barrenness... that lay in wait for me...

Kirk is surprised to see Spock forcing a weak smile onto his features, almost frowning with the effort of it. He's exhausted himself; his eyelids are growing heavy.

SPOCK
(continuing)
Hello, Jim... my friend...

Spock drops off into unconsciousness again. Kirk becomes aware of McCoy who has entered quietly.

KIRK
Bones, do you understand any of this?

McCOY
(nods)
I sat through his delerium. He melded with machine logic... pure knowledge, uncomplicated by joy, or sorrow, or beauty, or hope...

Interrupted by Doctor Chapel ENTERING.

CHAPEL
Captain, the bridge. Urgent!

299 INT. V'GER - U.S.S. ENTERPRISE (S) 299

Ahead of the Enterprise, the gigantic "toothlike" barrier is beginning to open, revealing a much larger interior chamber of V'ger beyond it.

300 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 300

showing Enterprise POV of the pathway further into V'ger as it opens wide. Beyond, a larger chamber, immense with wholly different flickering fields of plasma-energy, and strange forcefield shapes. Decker and Tasha stand near the helm with Sulu and Rand on duty there. They turn at the SOUND of ELEVATOR DOORS.

RODDENBERRY.COM

301 ANGLE TO INCLUDE KIRK 301

entering fast, throwing a look toward O.S. Main Viewer.

DECKER
I think we're being invited further inside, Captain.

Behind Kirk, other Bridge Crew are entering, manning the consoles.

SULU
We've gone to yellow alert, sir. All decks report ready.

UHURA
Starfleet reports Intruder now decelerating sharply. Estimating twenty-one minutes from Earth orbit, Captain. *

Kirk has been eyeing Decker and Tasha. He indicates toward viewer again to Decker:

KIRK
Explain. As much as you know...

DECKER
(indicates Tasha)
The 'Ilia' memories -- however V'ger molded her, it included those patterns too. As she becomes more and more aware of them, V'ger is learning what she knows about Earth.

KIRK
(to Tasha)
We're being invited where in there? For what purpose?

TASHA
(shakes head)
I am not part of V'ger's consciousness...

The elevator doors open, Spock enters, attended by a very concerned McCoy. Spock is weak, supports himself by the handrail for a moment as he crosses in. His eyes take in the viewer image.

McCOY
(to Kirk)
Something woke him...

(CONTINUED)

301 CONTINUED: 301

SPOCK
(nods)
V'ger. I sense now that something has made V'ger aware... that humans are... some integral part of its Earth destination.

Spock's gaze travels to Tasha, rests quizzically there for a moment. But he's now almost tottering from fatigue and weakness.

McCOY
(to Kirk)
Get him off his feet, Jim.

Kirk takes Spock's arm, gently propels him into the center seat. Spock looks up at Kirk.

SPOCK
I believe... I can direct us to the... the essence of V'ger itself.

KIRK
Then stay where you are, Spock. You have the conn.

SPOCK
Maneuvering thrusters, Mr. Sulu; ahead, one-third.

Sulu hesitates just an instant -- then moves his controls.

SULU
Maneuvering thrusters, one-third.

302 CLOSE ON VIEWER (O) 302

The Enterprise begins moving -- on the viewer we SEE the central passageway looming larger.

303 INT. V'GER PASSAGE CHAMBER - ENTERPRISE MOVING (S) 303

Massive, with continual surges of energy, and color-churning plasma, containing its own unique style of buttressing and detail, with the surface suddenly curving, so that the Enterprise must maneuver with the curve -- new energy objects appear, sweeping past Enterprise almost like playful satellites.

RODDENBERRY.COM

304 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 304

All intent on the viewer, the wonderland maze outside. Now, suddenly, another wall -- or barrier -- looms ahead, and Spock studies the viewer, then closes his eyes as he strains to grasp the image from the recent mind-meld.

SPOCK
Mr. Sulu... head 114 mark 62.

Sulu moves his controls -- the viewer image tilts, for another instant the barrier ahead looms ever closer, and then suddenly there is a new passageway.

305 INT. V'GER CENTRAL PASSAGE - ENTERPRISE (S) 305

gliding through the new passageway, which seems narrower than the others, the walls VISIBLE -- and seemingly elastic, bulging in places, receding in others. Some of the bulges present a formidable obstacle to the ship if it continues on its present course, but it veers past them, resembling now a fish sliding through ocean-bottom rocks.

306 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 306

showing the same passageway -- and then, ahead, another barrier: this one WHITE FOG, tendrils of it drifting TOWARD US, splattering into the viewer screen, and now becoming a total WHITEOUT.

SPOCK
Maintain heading, Mr. Sulu.

307 INT. V'GER "FOG" CHAMBER (S) 307

No walls are visible, the chamber is filled with a sea of energy nodes resembling dots on an impressionistic painting, the dots moving and passing through endless patterns, intermixing hues. The Enterprise is nearly lost in all this, white on white.

308 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 308

Enterprise traveling "blind" now. The Bridge Crew tensely watching.

CHEKOV
(to Kirk)
Forcefields and deflectors, sir?

(CONTINUED)

308 CONTINUED: 308

SPOCK
Negative, Mr. Chekov. We're expected... for the time being, even welcome.

KIRK
The mind-meld, Spock. How much have you learned?

SPOCK
(shakes head)
Disorientated fragments. In the first instant, far across our galaxy a star-sized planet, gigantic living machines... then more and more, becoming like every particle of knowledge in existence... thrust on me. Like a torrent, a tidal wave... and my mind only a small cup.

McCOY
Fascinating, Mr. Spock. Poetry from you?

Spock cocks an eyebrow at McCoy. Then he turns to Sulu.

SPOCK
Helm, head 290 mark six.

Sulu adjusts his controls accordingly. Kirk looks over to see Tasha indicating a navigation control setting to Rand who looks startled at this, then nods and makes an adjustment. Almost automatically, Tasha explains:

TASHA
Magnetic variation on the azimuth dampener...

She almost ends it with the routine "sir," then realizes it was an instinctive "Ilia" interest in the navigation console. Kirk exchanges a glance with Decker.

309 ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING UHURA 309

Interrupting:

UHURA
Starfleet signal, sir. I have a lock -- amplifying -- it's a visual...

310 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (O) 310

as its image breaks up, a confusion of patterns, then slowly resolves into V'ger, huge at first, then diminishing in size as it hurtles toward blue-flecked planet Earth in b.g.

UHURA
I believe we have a lunar monitor view of Intruder...
(working controls)
... but audio frequencies are being blanketed by powerful signals...

TASHA
A call to the Creator...

KIRK
What's that...?

TASHA
V'ger calls.

SPOCK
(understanding, nodding; to Kirk)
'I am arrived.'

TASHA
'I seek to become One with you.'

Main Viewer image suddenly breaks up, fragmenting into flashing patterns.

UHURA
Signals now blanketing visual frequencies too.
(startled at her console readings)
Shutting down.
(punching "off" controls)
The signal power's too great; it must be blowing transceivers everywhere.

McCOY
When V'ger calls, he calls.

Main Viewer has gone back to "fog" effect.

KIRK
'I am arrived!'
(to Tasha)
And if V'ger gets no answer?

(CONTINUED)

310 CONTINUED: 310

TASHA
(a frightened look;
then a headshake)
The Creator... must answer.

SPOCK
(again "sensing";
turns to Tasha)
Was it a 'promise' made to V'ger?
Long ago?

They get a frightened nod from Tasha. Then something calls Spock's attention back to the Main Viewer.

311 ANGLE FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 311

proceeding through the "fog," with now and then an occasional break where the white dots are slightly less concentrated, but this quickly closes, and the viewer is again a single mass of CLOSELY-PACKED WHITE DOTS, all moving and throbbing, entwining, churning.

Spock's eyes are fixed on the viewer; he is straining for memory, and the effort shows: he is bathed in perspiration.

SPOCK
Steady she goes, Mr. Sulu.

312 INT. V'GER FOG CHAMBER - ENTERPRISE (S) 312

moving through the whiteness, this minute white object nearly lost in the white sea.

313 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING DECKER AND TASHA 313

Decker studying the O.S. viewer, seemingly more and more intrigued and anxious. Tasha is studying Decker, peering at him with another glimmer of vague recognition. Now, suddenly, she places her hand on his. He turns, looks at her hand, then at her. But for the vagueness in her eyes, Tasha's face is totally expressionless.

314 INT. V'GER CENTRAL "BRAIN" - ENTERPRISE (S) 314

The "fog" suddenly thinning, and the Enterprise bursts out of the whiteness, into an enormous hemisphere chamber, far larger than any part of V'ger yet seen. Lacing through this chamber are dazzling concentric energy patterns, almost like brain-neuron schematics etched in brilliant "lightning" displays.

315 INT. BRIDGE - VIEWER (O) 315

showing the same concentric pattern ahead, this rapidly widening so that we SEE beyond it -- and we SEE a tiny "island" floating in the exact center of the great hemisphere. Many different ENERGY FORMS and COLORS pulsing in and around the "island" which appears to be an intricate, solid matter complex of some sort.

SPOCK
All stop.

A moment, then forward motion stops. Not a word is said as all peer in disbelief at the sight.

316 INT. V'GER "BRAIN CHAMBER" - ENTERPRISE (S) 316

Enterprise stops, holds position about a quarter mile away from the strange, solid "island" complex.

317 INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING THE VIEWER (O) 317

All inspecting the "island" complex. Then they're startled by:

TASHA
V'ger!
(sees the questioning looks)
V'ger's beginning.

Kirk looks to Spock who seems mesmerized for a moment, as if being permitted to understand a bit more from his mind-meld experience. Then Spock nods:

SPOCK
A 'primal brain.'
(comes out of reverie; to Kirk)
Whatever V'ger is, Captain, whatever it was, whatever it seeks... our answer is here.

318 ANGLE ON UHURA 318

as just then she reacts to a console reading.

UHURA
Captain... the V'ger signals have stopped!

Surprise inquiring looks toward Tasha and Spock. Then:

318A PAST THEM TO THE VIEWER (O) 318A

As they watch, viewer image becomes that of V'ger in Earth orbit.

ADMIRAL NOGURA'S VOICE
(amplified from view)
Enterprise from Starfleet Command, are you receiving? We are picking up your location beacon directly from Intruder position.

KIRK
(hits chair control)
Starfleet, this is Kirk; we are ... located within Intruder -- anticipating full contact with Intruder life form shortly.

ADMIRAL NOGURA'S VOICE
We receive you, Enterprise. Going high mag on our visual to you...

On the viewer we SEE V'ger go through a couple of magnification stages until its image fills the viewer. And in this closer view, we can SEE a couple of objects moving away from the great Intruder shape and then a third, then a fourth identical object emerges. Each of these objects is moving away from V'ger in different directions.

ADMIRAL NOGURA'S VOICE
(continuing)
Our sensors read these objects as a form of neutron device, Enterprise. They scan as heading for equidistant positions over the planet.

KIRK
Stand by, Starfleet.

Kirk turns to Tasha inquiringly.

TASHA
Carbon-based units... are to be destroyed. The Creator has not replied... you 'infect' the planet surface... V'ger believes you to be the most probable cause.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

318A CONTINUED: 318A

RAND
(making console computations)
Captain... I make the devices as reaching equidistant positions in fifty-eight minutes.

TASHA
(nods to Kirk)
You have that interval.

McCOY
My God, they'll wipe out every living thing...

KIRK
Kirk to Starfleet, confirm they are neutron in nature, set to detonate in fifty-eight minutes. We are...

Viewer image of V'ger switches abruptly to image of "island" complex inside V'ger.

UHURA
We've lost Starfleet signal, Captain...

McCOY
(indicating viewer)
Jim...!

Enterprise is being drawn toward the strange solid complex -- it looms larger, larger.

319 INT. V'GER "BRAIN" CHAMBER - ENTERPRISE AND COMPLEX (S) 319

as the starship is drawn toward the complex, the vessel slowing, its "saucer" edge nudging up gently against the complex as if docked there.

320 INT. BRIDGE 320

Decker, at science console, gets a strange reading, whirls to Kirk:

DECKER
Captain... I read an oxygen and gravity envelope forming outside the Enterprise...!

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

320 CONTINUED: 320

Tasha crosses toward the elevators, turns to them, as if waiting. Spock suddenly understands, gets out of the command chair.

SPOCK
I believe, Captain...we are being invited into V'ger's presence.

KIRK
We don't seem to have any choice.

RAND
Fifty-seven minutes left, sir.

321 INT. V'GER BRAIN CHAMBER - ENTERPRISE (S) 321

stationary, still next to the "island" complex. CAMERA CLOSES ON THE SAUCER SECTION, NEAR THE BRIDGE -- as a hatch slides open.

321A CLOSER ON THE HATCH (O) 321A

Tiny figures emerge and we can IDENTIFY Kirk, Spock, McCoy, and Decker (Spock and McCoy carrying tricorders) -- and Tasha.

322 INT. BRIDGE - THE VIEWER (O) 322

showing the five moving out. Uhura, Chekov, Sulu -- and the others on the bridge watching tensely.

323 thru 329 INT. V'GER BRAIN CHAMBER - VARIOUS ANGLES AND POVS - THE "WING WALK" 323 thru 329

Tasha leading them toward the outer edge of the Enterprise saucer, to the "island." A half-matter, half-energy shape appears, CRACKLES WITH RAW ENERGY past them. Tasha ignores it, but the others are stunned by the entity's actual presence; it ROARS past them, vanishes into the depths of V'ger.

The four proceed over what first appears to be a huge black field -- but we soon perceive it is merely the letter "N" in the Enterprise's identification insignia.

The saucer is at the very edge of the "island" -- nearly flush with it, just a foot higher.

(CONTINUED)

323 thru 329 CONTINUED: 323 thru 329

They approach the edge, Tasha and Kirk leading, Spock, Decker and McCoy just behind, with the CAMERA FEATURING CLOSE SHOTS OF EACH: Tasha, bland, pleasant. Kirk peering grimly ahead. Spock taking in each small detail, analyzing -- and again, fragments of the mind-meld flitting tantalizing back into his memory. McCoy, eyes wide with the wonder and magnificence of it all; and Decker, simply overwhelmed, the explorer on the threshold of the greatest discovery of all.

330 AT "ISLAND" COMPLEX (O) 330

Tasha motions for them to follow as she steps off the huge starship saucer surface onto the V'ger complex, immediately disappears into the darkness. Kirk, Spock, McCoy and Decker follow.

331 MOVING THROUGH V'GER COMPLEX (O) 331

They pass strange devices, each with their own unique color, movement, and SOUND. Soon they approach a:

332 CUBE OF FLUORESCENT LIGHT - FROM A DISTANCE (O) 332

The cube of light (a mysterious feeling of "BLACK LIGHT") obviously self-contained. As they move closer, Tasha points to it.

333 WHAT THEY SEE - ILIA FLOATING INSIDE THE DARK-GLOW LIGHT (O) 333

The real Ilia, eyes closed, hanging within the mass, limp, motionless. A shocked Decker moves closer to study her, Spock and McCoy scanning with the tricorder he carries.

McCOY
No life reading.

TASHA
The form is being preserved for further study.

Decker fights to control his emotions as Tasha moves on, disappears into shadows ahead. They have no choice but to follow, both glancing back regretfully at Ilia's body, hanging lifeless.

RODDENBERRY.COM

334 ANGLE ON TASHA 334

waiting for them in a shadow. They ENTER SHOT, then look beyond where she is gazing. Kirk's eyes narrow -- he peers off in growing excitement. Then he hurries in that direction.

335 WHAT KIRK HAS SEEN (O) 335

A large metallic object -- pitted and scarred -- the bottom half damaged as if from a hard landing or being abruptly seized in flight -- old-style solar energy vanes extending from it.

There is a sense of mysterious importance to this object. It rests on a strange base which PULSES WITH PATTERNS OF LIGHT which seem to be passing life itself between the object and the gigantic V'ger.

336 CLOSER ON THE OBJECT 336

as they hurry INTO SHOT, exchanging astonished looks. Spock is scanning it with his tricorder. The object, once painted, is now flaking in the dozens of places from meteorites, dust, heat, other space hazards. Kirk is staring in surprise and near-disbelief at:

337 CLOSE ON THE PLAQUE 337

containing an inscription:

V GER 6

NASA

The space between V and G obliterated, smashed by some space hazard.

338 BACK TO FULL SHOT 338

with appropriate reactions.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

338 CONTINUED: 338

KIRK
V-G-E-R. V'ger...
(traces finger on obliterated figures)
V-O-Y-A-G-E-R... Voyager.
Voyager Six! NASA...

McCOY
National Aeronautics and Space Administration...

KIRK
(into communicator)
Enterprise, Kirk...

339 INT. BRIDGE - UHURA 339

Sulu and Chekov hurrying over as:

KIRK'S VOICE
Run ship's computer library records on late 20th century space probe -- designation Voyager Six -- prepare readouts on every detail.

SULU
Captain, I know that one. It was designed to fly past our outer planets, then return to Earth. I'll have the rest in minutes.

Sulu hurries off.

KIRK'S VOICE
Affirmative on that; Kirk out.

340 INT. V'GER - AT VOYAGER SIX 340

Kirk turning back to the others.

KIRK
Also, it was the first man-made object ever to disappear into a black hole.

DECKER
Returning to normal space again where?

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

340 CONTINUED: 340

SPOCK
Wherever it was built into all this.
(indicates all around them)
This is Voyager Six, all of it.
(indicates the space probe)
This was the 'seed'; it still remains its primal brain...
(indicating around it)
... sitting at the center of V'ger's brain chamber.

McCoy laughs, Spock looks puzzled.

McCOY
We have an old nursery rhyme, Mr. Spock. 'I shot an arrow into the air...'
(indicating broadly)
... and look what came back.

Spock decides to ignore McCoy, turns to Kirk.

SPOCK
I understand those images now, Captain. A planet civilization of incredible living machines, their original builders perhaps even forgotten...
(indicates space probe)
... and this arrived, one of their own kind -- primitive, programmed to return to Earth, yet unable to do so.

KIRK
(suddenly intent)
And programmed to scan, measure, seek and record information on everything possible...
(directly to Spock)
... and the advanced machines of that planet you saw, they accepted its programming, they provided it with power, defenses, incredibly advanced scanning and recording devices -- and a conscious will to return to its creator as programmed.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED: (2) 340

McCOY
A little hard to buy, gentlemen.
(shakes head)
Machines so friendly they said... 'Look here, Voyager, if you have a job to do we'll help you do it right!'

SPOCK
Do you question the validity of human instincts, Doctor? To a machine, programming is just as basic.

KIRK
(to Tasha)
And we are the Creator! Does V'ger understand what I'm saying? We are the Creator!

341 CLOSER - AT PLAQUE 341

Kirk moving in, indicating it to Tasha.

KIRK
And its name isn't V'ger. Look! Closely, Tasha, barely visible...
(with his finger)
... V... O... Y... A... G... E... R. Voyager! If we didn't send it, how did we know its true name?

COMMUNICATOR SOUND; Kirk responds into it.

KIRK
(continuing)
Kirk!

UHURA'S VOICE
We have the Voyager Six information, Captain.

342 INT. BRIDGE - UHURA, CHEKOV AND SULU 342

at communications console. Sulu holds a hand computer-screen, referring to it.

SULU
Full schematics, diagrams, specifications, Captain.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

342 CONTINUED: 342

SULU (CONT'D)
Correction on one thing; it was designed to return to Earth orbit. Then a radio signal would activate it to transmit its findings.

KIRK
You've just solved our problem, Mister Sulu. Commander Uhura, stand by to transmit that signal on my command.

343 INT. V'GER "ISLAND COMPLEX" - AT VOYAGER SIX 343

Kirk turning to Tasha, jubilant.

KIRK
That's it, isn't it! 'Creator, I have arrived. Transmit to me; fulfill my programming.'

TASHA
(nods)
Yes.
(to Decker)
It's true? You are the Creator?
(grabs his arm)
Decker, if you're greater than V'ger, can you make me more than a probe...?

During which, another COMMUNICATOR SOUND; Kirk answering it:

KIRK
Kirk.

SULU'S VOICE
Captain, the Voyager activator is a code signal...

KIRK
(interrupting)
Transmit the code. Now!

SULU'S VOICE
We can't, Captain. The code isn't in our records. Voyager Six was sent out by Earth's 'United States Subdivision.'
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

343 CONTINUED: 343

SULU'S VOICE (CONT'D)
The frequency and code was probably kept secret to keep the Voyager data from rival subdivisions.

McCOY
That's preposterous! They wouldn't have kept scientific data from one another.

SPOCK
(to McCoy)
Obviously, you are a doctor, not a historian.
(to Kirk)
Starfleet Archives.

SULU'S VOICE
We've checked with Archives, Mister Spock. This code predates their computer system...

KIRK
(interrupting)
Tell them to begin a hand search, immediately! Priority one!

DECKER
Only forty-nine minutes left...

SPOCK
If I may suggest, Captain...
(indicating Tasha)
... beam down yourself immediately with the Tasha probe. If the code can't be found on time, there will still be original records, photographs of Voyager Six, its launch...

344 EMPHASIZING KIRK AND TASHA 344

as he whirls to her.

KIRK
Tasha! Will evidence like that make a difference?

TASHA
(uncertain)
If V'ger wishes me to be sent...

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

344 CONTINUED: 344

Instantly, BRILLIANT LIGHT FLASHES OBSCURE Kirk and Tasha (identical to those accompanying the first probe and Ilia's disappearance). When the GLARE FADES, they're gone.

345 EXT. EARTH - STARFLEET HEADQUARTERS BUILDING - DAY 345
(M) (O)

Lovely building and San Francisco in b.g. much as we last saw it -- PEOPLE hurrying (STARFLEET PERSONNEL and CIVILIANS) somberly about their business.

In the midst of this now the V'GER BRILLIANT FLASH EFFECT. Kirk, and Tasha. Kirk looks around to orient himself (as Tasha merely observes blandly, interestedly) -- and then quickly Kirk starts toward the building, Tasha following. The EFFECT startled onlookers, who cast an apprehensive look up at the sky.

346 EXT. SPACE - V'GER ORBITING EARTH (S) 346

The huge ship moving slowly, ominously across the sky, planet Earth lying helpless BELOW it. And, IN THE SHOT, one of the orbiting neutron devices.

347 INT. V'GER - SPOCK, McCOY, DECKER AT VOYAGER SIX 347

Spock and Decker are examining the old space capsule, the way it is connected to the complex. Spock moves in closer, now scrutinizing the access plate on the side of Voyager Six. McCoy is moving away in the direction they arrived from.

SPOCK
A moment, please, Doctor.

McCOY
(turns)
I wouldn't touch it, Spock! If this is its 'primal brain,' as you described it...

SPOCK
(to Decker)
If the signal can be engaged manually, Mr. Decker...

RODDENBERRY.COM

348 SPOCK AND DECKER AT VOYAGER SIX (O) 348

Spock pulls an inset-flush surface lever -- the access hatch springs open. At the same moment, a gentle HUMMING from the NASA capsule -- through the access hatch we can SEE tiny lights blinking as if Voyager Six has come to life again.

DECKER
(a warning)
Spock...!

Spock has reached into the access hatch -- the move triggering a VIOLENT DISPLAY OF A SHAFT OF LIGHT WHICH ESCAPES SPOCK -- BRILLIANTLY-COLORED SPIRALS AND OTHER PATTERNS FLARE OUT HIGH INTO THE HEMISPHERIC CHAMBER SURROUNDING THE "ISLAND" COMPLEX. DECKER IS HIT BY A FLARE too but knocked aside.

Then, as suddenly, it is gone. Spock slumps to his knees, dazed, fighting for consciousness as McCoy enters on the run, assists him.

349 CLOSER - THE THREE 349

Spock being helped to his feet by McCoy, a shaken Decker getting to his feet too. Both Spock and Decker wear the looks of men who have experienced something more unusual than it was frightening.

SPOCK
Fascinating...

McCOY
Imbecilic!

DECKER
No, Doctor, fascinating. Mr. Spock was seized... and then 'rejected.'

SPOCK
(indicates)
This complex we're standing on; this 'island' floating in the middle of V'ger's brain area... it has some purpose we do not yet understand.

350 INT. ARCHIVES SECTION 350

SEEING first a huge room, very dim, but for lighted corridors, and small pools of light located somewhat randomly about the room.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

350 CONTINUED: 350

The light creating the "pool" is trained from the ceiling, a narrow beam at origin, widening until terminus, which is actually a "research station," manned by a RESEARCHER TECHNICIAN. A number of Technicians occupy the room, each seated in a comfortable swivel chair, facing a large computer console. Each "station" specializes in a certain subject, but all tied into the main Archives computer.

Now we SEE Kirk and Tasha -- walking rapidly along one of the lighted corridors (or pathways), accompanied by a young, attractive black female officer, CAPTAIN LEBUTU. As they walk, passing various "research stations" -- each one separated by the darkness of the room -- Lebutu is saying:

LEBUTU
I've ordered another computer search just to make certain, Admiral --

And she stops now, indicates:

351 A RESEARCH STATION 351

one of the isolated areas under a circle of light, the ARCHIVIST, a wrinkled, scholarly, wizened -- but very alert and interested -- old man, is at his computer console, seated in the comfortable chair with the myriad of control buttons on both armrests. On his console is flashing all manner of pictorial representations of Voyagers -- people/travellers, ships, wheeled vehicles, space vehicles.

352 ANOTHER ANGLE 352

as Lebutu faces Kirk, indicates into the dim recesses:

LEBUTU
(with urgency)
The pre-computer storage facility is this way, sir --

And she leads the way hurriedly.

353 INT. BRIDGE - AT SCIENCE STATION 353

Spock, Decker and McCoy. On his console monitor, Spock is running Voyager Six schematics, diagrams and circuitry plans.

(CONTINUED)

353 CONTINUED: 353

DECKER
You couldn't have seen much through its access hatch.

SPOCK
(eyeing monitor data)
Just a glimpse, Commander. But something wasn't right. If I see it here, I'll recognize it.

Spock continues running data on the monitor. Then:

McCOY
(to Decker)
Your assignment with Tasha must have been difficult.

Decker looks up at McCoy sharply. Then he nods.

DECKER
I was much younger when I knew Ilia. The experience frightened me; I left Delta immediately.
(hesitates)
The probe seemed almost like Ilia at times. But its reactions were all program patterns, of course.

McCOY
(eyeing Decker)
Of course.

SPOCK
She used a most interesting phrase about V'ger... 'To become One with the Creator.'

DECKER
It seems to want <u>something</u> so badly I can almost feel sorry for it. There's a magnificence about it...

SULU
(calling)
Eleven minutes left.

McCOY
(reacting; to Decker)
Magnificence? Something willing to wipe out billions of other life forms?

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

353 CONTINUED: (2) 353

DECKER
But it still represents something we couldn't achieve in a thousand centuries -- ten thousand centuries...!

354 ACROSS THEM TO SPOCK 354

glancing up from the console:

SPOCK
What has V'ger achieved, Mr. Decker?

355 INT. ARCHIVES SECTION - CONFERENCE AREA 355

resembling the main section, various "research centers" bathed in light pools -- but one, large area, with a conference table, and HALF A DOZEN ARCHIVISTS pouring over all manner of files, stacks of papers, books. Kirk and Tasha are here, Kirk more and more desperate as he regards the endless stacks of material to be culled. Just then Lebutu hurries INTO SHOT, her arms filled with microfilm reels.

LEBUTU
These were in the antiquities section, sir... but with five minutes left...

Kirk takes a reel from her, glances quickly at the label, CAMERA CLOSING A MOMENT so we can READ: NASA - 1982-1988.

356 ANOTHER ANGLE - KIRK 356

reacting hopefully, unreeling part of the tape, holding it to the light -- but of course it is impossible to read.

KIRK
This would take hours. They're made for some kind of projector-magnifier...

LEBUTU
... in the twentieth century. I've never even seen one.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

356 CONTINUED: 356

But Kirk isn't listening now. He's peering at Tasha with sudden enlightenment.

KIRK
Tasha -- here! Hurry!

357 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - NEUTRON DEVICE - V'GER BEYOND (S) 357

The ominous, saucer-sized canister now emitting FLICKERING ENERGY PULSATIONS, the entire canister beginning to GLOW DIMLY, obviously ready for detonation.

358 CLOSER ON V'GER - EARTH BELOW (S) 358

V'ger in orbit, almost beautiful in its immensity.

359 INT. ARCHIVES SECTION - CONFERENCE AREA 359

with the Archivists still working feverishly in the b.g., but in f.g. Kirk anxiously watches Tasha rolling microfilm in her nimble fingers, her eyes taking in each single frame in a millisecond. Suddenly she stops:

TASHA
(indicating film)
'Voyager Six Command Frequency.'

Kirk snatches the film from here, places it under a magnifier which Lebutu swings over under the light:

360 CLOSE ON THE MAGNIFIER 360

The page readings: "Voyager Six, Command Frequency" -- and a multitude of numbers and other data.

361 KIRK 361

talking into his communicator:

KIRK
Kirk to Enterprise... urgent.

UHURA'S VOICE
Enterprise bridge, Captain.

RODDENBERRY.COM

362 INT. BRIDGE - UHURA 362

reacting incredulously as she receives the signal, flips buttons, talks into her console communicator:

UHURA
Signal from Captain Kirk...!
It's the release code, sir!

SULU
Four minutes...

Decker and McCoy move in. During the following, Scott and others will arrive. Spock remains absorbed at his monitor images of Voyager Six circuitry.

Uhura punches in the figures on her console as she consults her viewer.

UHURA
Frequency: thirty-five point
eight seven five four gigahertz.
Code: 504-329-317-510-482.
(turning to Decker)
Ready to signal, sir.

DECKER
Transmit.

Uhura depresses a key. Decker whirls to watch:

363 ANGLE INCLUDING VIEWER (O) 363

showing an image of V'ger. No sign of anything happening.

McCOY
(to Chekov)
The neutron devices!

Chekov works controls; Main Viewer switches to image of one of the ugly-looking neutron devices. Its deadly GLOW PULSES FASTER than at our last view of one of them. Chekov switches to image of a second neutron device, PULSING, GLOWING in the same manner -- it is clear they haven't been affected.

DECKER
Nothing!

SULU
Three minutes, sir.

RODDENBERRY.COM

364 ANGLE ON SPOCK 364

transfixed by an image of Voyager Six circuitry on his monitor. Then he whirls, coming fast out of his chair, grabbing up his tricorder.

365 WIDER ANGLE 365

Spock crossing toward the elevator, rapidly punching information into his tricorder.

SPOCK
Doctor, Commander Decker -- Voyager's receiver circuitry has been altered! We'll have to patch in the code directly!

DECKER
(hurrying)
Altered? How?

SPOCK
By V'ger itself. To force the 'Creator' to be present at that moment.

This as the elevator doors snap closed and they EXIT.

366 EXT. EARTH - STARFLEET HEADQUARTERS BUILDING - DAY (M) 366

Deserted now except for a few figures in b.g. hurrying to seek some kind of safety. Kirk stands in f.g. with Tasha, using his communicator.

UHURA'S VOICE
... they've left to patch in the code themselves, sir.

KIRK
Have transporter room take a fix on my signal. Now! Beam us directly there!

367 INT. V'GER - AT VOYAGER SIX 367

with McCoy and Decker watching Spock who stands at the still closed access hatch, tricorder in hand.

McCOY
Less than a minute, Spock; what are you waiting for...?!

(CONTINUED)

367 CONTINUED: 367

SPOCK
What human traits I have were repressed when I melded with V'ger, Doctor. It rejects me. I cannot provide what V'ger is seeking.

Spock tries to open the access hatch -- it refuses to budge.

SPOCK
(continuing)
Do you understand, Doctor? Whoever activates the code -- will be physically joined with V'ger. Literally become part of it...

368 PAST THEM TO KIRK AND TASHA (O) 368

just then MATERIALIZING. Decker casts a quick glance at them before they're entirely materialized, and he strides toward Spock, takes the tricorder from him.

KIRK
(commandingly)
Decker...!

369 FAVORING TASHA 369

She starts toward Decker as he turns to Kirk:

DECKER
I'm taking something to V'ger, Jim. Things we humans fear most in ourselves... those wonderfully ugly things like... passion, jealousy, selfishness, fear of death... they're the root of everything great we've ever done.

Tasha touches Decker's hand, AD LIBS quietly, "Decker..." as Kirk starts toward Decker, saying:

KIRK
No, Decker, I accepted this mission!

But Kirk is determined, moves toward Decker -- but Tasha blocks Kirk's way, grasping his arm in a steel grip.

(CONTINUED)

369 CONTINUED: 369

DECKER
No, you accepted the Enterprise.
I want this just as badly.

Decker glances once at Kirk, smiles, turns to Voyager Six with the tricorder -- the hatch falls open easily -- he inserts the tricorder.

370 & 371 VARIOUS SHOTS AND POVS - DECKER BEING FUSED (O) 370 & 371

For just an instant nothing happens -- and then a BLINDING SHAFT OF LIGHT STRIKES HIM. The color becomes BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER, begins spiraling through the room. Tasha races toward Decker, is caught in the LIGHT, and instantly VANISHES in a BRILLIANT WHITE GLOW.

Now a SPECTACULAR SERIES OF VISUALS, the SPIRALING LIGHT enveloping the entire room.

All this emanating from Decker's body, becoming BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER until now it is almost transparent. And the SPIRALING now expanding in all directions, and the room itself starting to dissolve, vanishing into nothingness -- and all commencing to slip into the new dimension (the Mobius Effect).

Kirk, Spock and McCoy stand transfixed another instant, then Kirk AD LIBS a desperate shout: "The ship...!" And all turn and race into the complex in the direction of their vessel.

372 KIRK, SPOCK AND McCOY - THRU COMPLEX (O) 372

Just ahead of the SPREADING MOBIUS. V'ger is literally vanishing before our eyes.

373 EXT. EARTH ORBIT - THE NEUTRON DEVICES (S) 373

Their glowing color fading, they too seem to be caught by the SPIRAL, simply seem to slip through to another dimension, vanish. One after another, all disappear.

374 EXT. V'GER - FULL SHOT (S) 374

The SPIRALING MOBIUS EFFECT now spreading outward, V'ger's massive shape becoming a spiraling pattern of twisting shapes and colors -- a gigantic flowering of transcendence into another dimension.

And then all that is left is a shimmering, jewel-like point of light -- and then it too fades -- and reveals there in the blue-black of space, the U.S.S. Enterprise.

RODDENBERRY.COM

375 INT. BRIDGE - INCLUDING THE VIEWER (O) 375

which shows now only space and its familiar star patterns. All gaze, awed, at the viewing screen. Spock and McCoy stand near Kirk as we HEAR an ELEVATOR DOOR, TURN TOWARD it and react at:

376 ANGLE TO INCLUDE ILIA 376

The real Ilia, walking onto the bridge. She exchanges a look with Kirk and Spock as she crosses to her navigator console, sits. McCoy starts to quickly bring out his medical tricorder; she sees this, smiles.

ILIA
You'll get a life form reading, Doctor.
(to Kirk)
I felt Decker pass into V'ger, Captain. Together, they saw to our safety.

McCOY
(confirming tricorder reading)
Life form!
(to Ilia; smiles)
Welcome back aboard, Lieutenant.

Scott enters the bridge but is interrupted by:

UHURA
Starfleet signal, sir. Return to orbital dockyard for inspection and repairs.

KIRK
Ignore the signal.
(to Scott)
No advantage in that without a proper shakedown, is there?

SCOTT
(beaming)
None at all, sir.
(toward Spock)
This design can have you back on Vulcan in four days, Mr. Spock.

SPOCK
I have no business on Vulcan, Engineer.

KIRK
Ahead Warp One, Mister Sulu.

(CONTINUED)

RODDENBERRY.COM

376 CONTINUED: 376

Sulu and Ilia both turn, puzzled.

SULU
Heading, sir?

KIRK
(taking center seat; indicates generally)
Out there. Thataway.

SPOCK
(nods gravely)
A most logical choice, Captain.

And a suggestion of a smile flits over Spock's lips.

377 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE 377

Planet Earth in the distance, and receding in size as the starship heads out the other direction.

FADE OUT.

THE END

RODDENBERRY.COM

EXPLANATION OF SHOT CODE

(S)..... Special Photographic Effect Shot

(O)..... Optical To Be Added

(M)..... Matte Shot

(F.P.)..... Front Projection

RODDENBERRY.COM

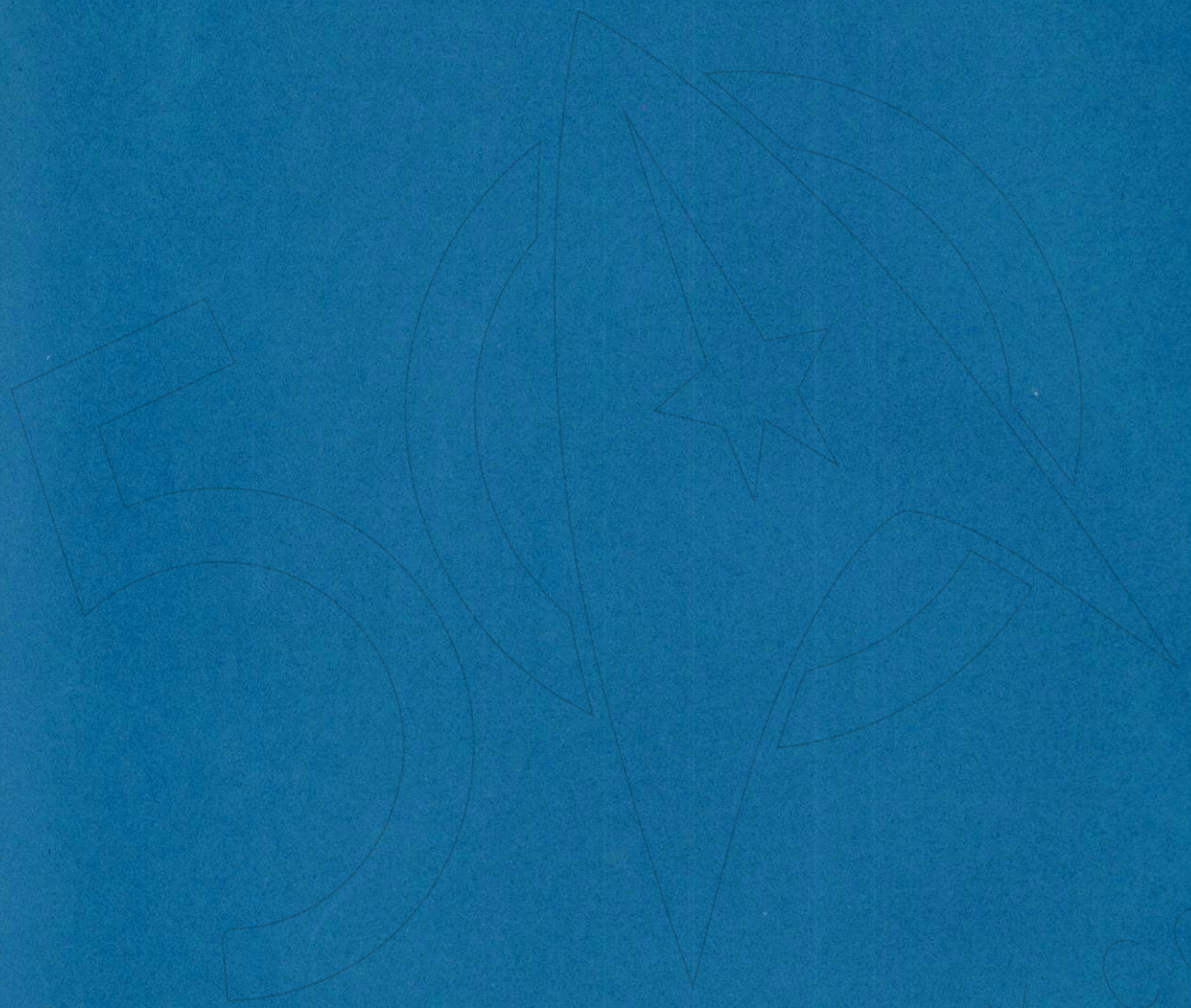
RODDENBERRY.COM

B A R B A R A ' S P L A C E
(we satisfy)

SCRIPT SPECIALISTS

Typing and Duplicating

7925 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90046
(213) 654-5902



RODDENBERRY.COM